WARSAW (Agencies) — President Wojciech Jaruzeiski urged Poland's Communist Party to take a "painful" look at its declining fortunes Friday ng expected to result in his own departure as party chief. "He need a painfully frank appraisal of the situation after the 'round table' (government-opposition reform pact) and the bitter lesson of the recent elections," Jaruzelski said in an opening speech. Party leaders spoke out bluntly as the central committee debated how to revive the party's fortunes humiliation by the Solidarity opposition in partly-free elections last month. The 230-member body met cluring a battle between the party and Solidarity — which now outnumbers the Communists in parliament aver forming a new government, and amid fears of riots when fond prices are freed to double or triple next week. "The danger of an explosion of a tange wave of strikes is real," opposition economists told Jaruzelski in an open letter. The official Communist-led OPZZ trade unions, which claim seven million members and are the biggest organisation in the country. apport action by the workers.

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ro west Beirut girls who escaped unharmed when their bedroom was pulverished by a rocket in the going artillery duels in the Lebanese capital.

Reports conflict over cause of KAL crash near Tripoli

iday they did not believe their mpany's DC-10 jetlioers were killed on the ground. ished near fog-shronded Tripoairport, killing at least 77.

But Libyan authorities deided the actions of the air iffic controllers who were rking when the plane crashed ursday morning in an olive ove near the airport, 55 ometres south of Tripoli. There were conflicting reports

the number of people killed in : crash and also on the possible ise of the accident. The official Libyan news agen-JANA and a diplomat at the

uth Korean embassy in the yan capital - who identified nself only as Mr. Chun - both d Thursday that 78 people pard the plane died, and Lian officials insisted Friday that ure was correct.

The officials, who declined use their name, said six people onground were also killed when

r Lines (KAL) officials said a car oo a highway before

Seoul that 71 of the 199 people on board the plane were maccounted for and presumed dead. The wreckage cut a swath 50

metres wide and 500 metres long in the grove. The plane came down about two kilometres short of the runway and about one kilometre to the left.

Most of the dead were South Korean passengers, JANA said. At the central bospital in downtown Tripoli Friday moreing, representatives of Korean companies whose workers were aboard the plane tried to get information on the injured. JANA said more than 110 people

. Reporters were not admitted to the bospital but airline officials in Seoul said 40 of the injured who suffered only light burns were expected to be released Friday. Distraught relatives frustrated

were bospitalised.

CIPOLI (Agencies) - Korean the edge of a lime orchard and hit from the crash kicked and punched riot police blocking their crashing in an olive grove. JANA way to Seoul's main airport ot was at fault when one of the had earlier reported four people where they planned a sit-in Friday. Airline officials said Friday in

Witnesses said about 100 weeping relatives marched peacefully for two hours from a designated KAL emergency centre to Kimpo international airport fonr kilometres away, hut lashed out violently when police stopped them extering airport grounds.

> KAL officials said a 14-member medical team with supplies left Seoul Friday for Tripoli and would return to Seoul with survi-

Also with the team KAL Chairman Cho Choong-Hoon, seven KAL investigators, three government investigators and five officials of construction companies whose workers were aboard the plane.

Libyan authorities opened an investigation into the crash, the second of a DC-10 in eight days. A United Airlines DC-10 crashed July 19 in the midwestern U.S. state of lowa, killing 111 people.

Beirut becomes ghost town through Syria and Cyprus. . of the three committee members, confrontation "in terms of fire-An electric tools warehouse in

BEIRUT (Agencies) Thousands of war-weary Lebanese fled the inferno of Beirut and nearby towns Friday after five hours of apillery and rocket barrages between Syrianbacked Lebanese militiamen and troops and milioas loyal to army commander Michel Aoun.

"What have children done to be butchered like that?" asked one of the refugees. Alia Shami. as she loaded the family car. Hundreds of vehicles formed convoys carrying frightened civilians to safer areas.

Security sources said thousands of rockets and shells pounded Beirut overnight, as well as nearby towns and far-flung villages in the Bekaa Valley, some 60 kilometres from the capital.

An inferno rings one third of Lebanon," said Al Diar newspaper, published in east Beirut. Once crowded and lively,

Beirut has been steadily drained of people since mid-March when Aoun launched his challenge to the Syrian role in the country. According to some estimates more than three-quarters of the residents bave fled to other parts of the country or beyond, fleeing

The overnight shelling, Beirut's second night of terror in a row, killed seven people and wounded about 80, trapping some families in blazing buildings. Fighting eased at dawn.
"All firefighters and rescuers.

are urged to rush to extinguish the fires," the Voice of the Homeland Radio said. Streets were littered with shat-

tered glass, broken trees and twisted metal from burning cars. Power and telephones cables hung broken from their pylons. and the only traffic in the city centre was emergency vehicles and bearses.

Shelling bas increased in intensity over the last two weeks, dashing hopes for Arah League efforts to bridge differences be-

tween Aoun and Syria. . Despite intensive efforts since May, a committee grouping the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco has failed to consolidate a shaky ceasefire arranged by the Arah League that month.

Political sources said the escalation was meant to exert pressure on the foreign ministers

due to meet in Morocco Saturday.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, who heads a civilian cabinet rivalling Aoun's military government, sent a letter to the Arah ministers asking them to

stop the hloodshed.
"Stop this massacre which is taking place in the name of liberation, sovereignty and 1,000 other causes," Hoss said.

Almost every neighbourhood in the divided capital as well as the port city of Jounieh were hit "as if hy a killer earthquake." said a police spokesman. "It was Beirut's night of borror and

The eight-hour barrage set off fires that hurned out of control. gutting scores of warehouses. shops and apartment huildings. Orange flames leaped into the night sky as residents cowered in basements and bomb shelters. New casualties raised the over-

all toll to 494 dead and 2.014 injured since the current round of civil war fighting erupted March

Police said it was the heaviest shelling duel in the four-month

power used and destruction wreaked. li started at 8 p.m. (1710)

GMT) Thursday, when gunners in west Beirut and north Lebanon joined forces to blast Jounieh, east Beirut and the port of Byblos.

Aoun's forces struck back at Syrian positions with 155-mm howitzers and their allies from the Lebanese Forces, the main rightist militia, opened up indiscriminately against west Beirut. The shelling tapered off at 4 a.m. (0100 GMT) Friday.

People emerged from bunkers in the morning to take stock of the losses and elean up debris. Supermarkets were jantmed with shoppers buying food and bottled water, anticipating another bombardment.

"Is this apocalypse?" wondered Hisham-Sinno, a grocer whose shop was blown to smithereens. "I'm destroyed, I have no source of income left." 'Let them all roast in hell.

those who are roasting Beirut." said Albert Tawil, a bank emday I'll drink their blood."

information department in Tunis, cat-

led the reports "complete rubbish."

reports into question.

Turwiler also appeared to call the

Frequently in the Middle East

there are press reports which may or may not characterise accurately a

party's position. History shows that

one should not base judgments, poli-cies, or actions on what may be

west Beirut's Sadat district blazed from midnight to midday. Fire engines were unable to hattle the blaze because of water shortage. Smoke blackened the facades of neighbouring apartment build-

"We're being killed in our beds... Beirut is being massacred and no one in the Arab World or the outside world seems to care." said an announcer on the Voice of Lebanon, radio, his own voice choking with emotion.

From its Tunis headquarters, the Arab League issued an appeal for the shelling to stop so its mediators could resume their

"This blind and bloody fighting must cease immediately, to save Lebanon by clearing the way for the three-member Arab committee to follow up its attempts to end discord," Secretary General Chadli Klibi said in a statement.

When the three heads of state last met in Algeria at the end of June, they said they wanted to see the fighting ended before ployee in east Beirut. "I wish one convening Lebanon's parliament at a neutral venue abroad.

ift in stand on election plan denies any sni Jamil Hilal, director of the PLO

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) conditions for agreeing to a proposal for elections in the occupied territories, as cooveyed by a Soviet official and other intermediaries; have not changed from its publicly stated positions, a spokesman said Friday.

Ahmad Abdul Rahman, the PDO spokesman, said in a telephone interview with the AP in Tunis that news reports of a softened stance were "fabricated by the Israeli leadership."

"The PLO position is that we are for elections but in the context of a comprehensive settlement," Abdul Rahman said. The PLO wants this complete settle-. ment to specify that the final result of negotiations will be an alestinian state he said.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has suggested frequently that the peace plan drawn up for Namibia could be used as a model, with at least a partial withdrawal of the occupying military force, internaGooally supervised elections, and a 27-mooth ometable guaranteeing independence oo a specific

· Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has proposed elections in which the Palestinians in the. occurpied West Bank and Gaza Strip would choose representatives to negotiate an interim selfrule plan, with talks to be held later oo the "final status" of the territories.

Sbamir has made clear that the PLO's conditions are unacceptable, and says he would refuse to deal with the PLO.

Labour Party legislators in Israel have said a softened PLO position has been set out in a U.S. government document. An Israeli official, speaking on condi-. tion of anonymity, said day that the document was relaved to Israel hy Soviet Middle East envoy Gennady Terrasov, who met an aide to Vice-Premier Shimon Peres after holding talks carlier with Arafat.

In Washington, State Depart-

ment spokeswoman . Margaret Tutweiler denied that such a memorandum existed.

"The United States is working on a realistic approach to elections, and we believe there is serious engage-ment on the Shamir election proposal," Putwiler told reporters. "Beyond that, I'm not going to characterise anyone clse's positioo."

Asked if she meant that the PLO was pursuing more seriously than before talks with the United States oo the elections plan, she refused to cite specific party.

Tutwiler made the statement a day after U.S. Ambassador Roben Pel-letreau held another in a series of meetings with PLO officials. But she said she did not mean to

suggest the hour-long talks in Tunis with PLO representative Hakim Balawi had reached a new level. Tutwiler said Wednesday the PLO

had proposed a number of conditions elections plan impossible. One conditioo is the demand for an independent Palestinian state. She

refused to came any others. Israeli newspapers and the New York Times also reported Thursday that the PLO had softened its conditions for elections.

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Parlia-

ment Speaker Hashemi Rafsan-

jani appeared set to be elected

the Islamic Republic's fourtb

president Friday by Iranians who

believe he can revitalise the mori-

hund economy and ease the

hardship of 10 years of revolution

Interior Minister Ali Akbar

Mohtashemi reported that voong

was so heavy that many of the

inaccurate or unauthorised statements. We deal with official statements and actions as they are relayed to us through official channels," she

> Abdul Rahman confirmed Friday that Terrasov met first with Arafat, relayed the well-established PLO conditions for accepting elections. The PLO spokesman said Israeli

> leaders were behind the reports of a softened stance "so they can say to the Americans that the PLO is com-

Senior PLO official Salah Khalaf has said the group has not authorised anyone to pegotiate with the Israeli government, the Kuwait daily Al Watan reported Friday.

The PLO did not authorise any Palestinian inside the occupied territories to negotiate with the Israeli government," Khalaf said in an interview with Al Watan.

Khalaf was commenting on reports that Pakestioians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip who met with Shamir did so on instructions from the PLO

Al Watan quoted Khalaf as saying the PLO leadership "did not ask the four Palestinians who met the Israeli prime minister recently to do so."

He said the PLO "is against allowing any party outside the legitimate institutions the power to open talks with the Israelis under any circumst-

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens defended contacts with Palestinians in the occupied territories Friday, saying failure to consult them was one of Israel's greatest mistakes

of the past two decades. Arens, considered a hardline ridiculed political rivals further to the right who had criticised the govern-

ment's talks with Palestinians "It is hard for me to understand the logic of anyone who says we must stay in the territory... to live together with

this Arab population but not to speak with them," Arens told army radio.

: jetliner demolished a bouse at at incomplete casualty reports Istonia strike ends, but nany questions unanswered

LLINN (Agencies) — Strik-Soviet workers went back to ir jobs at dawn Friday after Estonian Republic's governnt agreed to form a commis-. n to investigate their comints of discrimination, the offil news media reported.

Representatives of strikers at factories and businesses in the onian capital met late Thurs-/ night with Estonian President nold Ryutel who agreed to m the commission, said Hary do, a correspondent for Eston radio. The ethnic Russian rkers have complained that the ublic's Estonian majority is ing to deny them voting rights. do, a correspondent for Eston radio. The ethnic Russian rkers have complained that the ublic's Estonian majority is ing to deny them voting rights. there were conflicting reports not whether the strike had

diners' leaders in the huge nbass region of the eastern raine, the largest coal-producarea in the Soviet Union, said y did not regard the strike as.

over, but merely suspended while the agreement was applied.
"We know full well we cannot

break the system all at once." said Vladimir Gorelov, chairman of the strike committee at the Kalinin mine in Donetsk. "Moscow gave us guarantees

— and we believe they were in good faith. But virtually none of these guarantees can be applied locally, at least under the presentmanagement." In their eagerness to settle the

miners' strike, which spread over two weeks from the Kuzbass in Western Siberia to east and west Ukraine, the far north and Soviet Central Asia, the authorities made a series of promises.

These included huge increases in supplies of food and goods to. mining areas, injections of funds to improve living and working conditions and pledges of greater local autonomy.

But with the whole country on

the brink of economic collapse,

with growth falling well belind

planned targets, wages racing

ahead of production and a suge

trade deficit with the west, it was a mystery how the Kremlin would pay for the deal.

Viktor Kucherenko, chairman of the Supreme Soviet's finance and budget commission, put the cost of the settlement at between three and 5.5 billioo roubles (\$4.8 to \$8.8 billion).

Gorelov said pent-up frustrations over miners' living and working conditions, safety procedures and local shortages of food and basic consumer goods finally boiled over last week at the mine causing the 5,000-strong workforce to walk out.

In Moscow, meanwhile, the conntry's national legislature Thursday gave the three Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania their biggest victory yet in a struggle for political and economic autonomy.

The Supreme Soviet approved the first of three oecessary readings of two resolutions that would give the republics economic independence by Jan. 1 and free themto trade with other Soviet repub-

Yazov rekindles controversy

LONDON (R) - Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov renewed an arms control controversy with the United States Friday by warning that Moscow would resume producing a banned missile if the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's (NATO) short-range Lance rocket was npgraded.

Winding up a four-day visit to Britain, Yazov attacked U.S. plans to produce a new longerrange missile to replace the ageing Lance, saying this would violate the two countries' 1987 intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty.

If the United States did manufacture it, he told London's Royal Institute of International Affairs, the Soviet Union would restart production of the SS-23, a missile of which it is currently destroying all stocks, as stipulated by the INF pact.



Dmitri Yazov

Referring to the SS-23 by its Russian name Oka, Yazov said: "If we eliminate this Oka, and then the Americans begin to build Lances with a range up to 500 kilometres, we will be forced to again make this Oka."

and Soviet ground-launched nuclear missiles with a range of 500 to 5.500 kilometres.

The INF treaty hanned all U.S.

26,000 polling booths across the country were to stay open an extra seven hours until midnight (2030 GMT). Some polling stadons were reported to have run

out of ballot papers.

and war.

Mobtashemi, a hardliner, claimed in a television interview that his security agencies had foiled plots by opposition groups "backed hy global arro-gance," the Iranian epithet for the United States and its allies, to disrupt the voting. But he did not

claborate. There was no estimate of bow many of Iran's 25 million electorate turned out to vote in the stifling summer beat. Anyone aged 16 or over can vote.

Some 17 million voted in last year's parliamentary elections and the last presidential poll in 1985, when Iran was locked in its eight-year war with Iraq. Iraoian Television showed a

long queue waiting to vote at a south Tehran polling station set up next to the gold-domed tomb of supreme leader Ayatollah Rubollab Khomeini, who died last month.

Radio and television stations played over and over a jingle exorting people to vote. Iran's post-Khomeini leaders

are boping for a large turnout of the 24 million eligible voters to show that enthusiasm for the Islamie republie has outlived its founder.

As well as electing a new president. Iranians are being asked to endorse constitutional

changes making him the government's chief executive and abolishing the post of prime minister. Rafsanjani, 55, was so confi-

dent of victory that he did not

bother campaigning. His only challenger is former Agriculture Minister Abass Sheibani, 58, a one-time student activist against the Shaw in the 1940s. He spent 13 years in prison before the revolution toppled the

There was no official word on when the results of the two ballots will be announced.

Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, an early voter in the capital, said: "The participation is fantastic in some of the polling stations I've visited in Tehran... just as we

expected. The radical Musavi will lose his job in the expected approval of constitutional changes that propose scrapping the post of premier and centralising authority in the

Hashimoto emerges as potential Uno successor

TOKYO (Agencies) -Ryutaro Hashimoto, secretarygeneral of Japan's ruling Liberal Democraoc Pary (LDP), has emerged as leading contender to succeed Prime Minister Sosuke Uoo, senior party mem-

bers said Friday. Uno, disgraced by allegations that he paid a geisha for sex, announced Monday that he would quit to take responsibility for the LDP's worst ever electoral defeat last Sunday in which it lost its majority in the upper house.

Hashimoto has not yet made

a formal announcement that he

will be a candidate in the ballot

Aug. 8 among the ruling party's

403 members of parliament for .

a new party president.
The LDP's leader becomes prime minister by virtue of the party's majority in the lower house.

An LDP elder took himself

out of the running for prime minister, strengthening the chance that Hashimoto will reach the oation's highest In an interview with the AP Hashimoto said little about his

who will lead the nation had to be "as transparent as possible." Speculation centred on Hashimoto, whose stature has been gaining fast in the con-

servative party in the past two

own possible candidacy, but

said the search for a party chief

months, while Uno's leadership was cut short by the scandal over allegations he kept paid mistresses

On Friday, former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, 75, who had been viewed as a rival to Hashimoto, said he had no intention of becoming prime minister.

Hashimoto's chances were further boistered when former Finance' Minister" Kilchi Miyazawa, who controls the third largest faction in the party, also said he referred to have a "young and progressive" person head the party and the government.

Hashimoto, the youngest secretary general ever, said he would not comment about his candidacy because he was helping choose the next leader.

A party official, speaking anonymously, said 'leaders seem to be trying to build consensus within the party over Hashimoto and I have not heard anyone express strong

opposition so far." But, he said, some party elders insist it is "premature for the party to give power to such a young politician (as Hashimo-

to) in such a turbulent time." For decades, Japan's prime ministers have been men in their middle 60s or older wbo reached the office after a steady apprenticeship through a succession of increasingly impor-

tant cahinet and party posts. Hashimoto, in parliament since he was 26, has not held top cahinet posts such as the finance portfolio, and he became party secretary general, the number two political post, only in June Hashimoto was the most ac-

ove campaigner for last Sun-

day's election, making some 90

appearances during the 14-day

campaign while Uno stayed in

the background. Uno was virtually hand-picked by former Prime Minister Nohoru Takeshita behind closed doors after Takeshita resigned to take responsibility for a widespread influence-peddling scandal.



Israelis abduct South Lebanese Shi'ite leader

BEIRUT (AP) — An Israeli commando force Friday kidnapped Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid. Iran's closest ally in South Lehanon, who was reportedly involved in the abduction of American Lieutenant-Colonel William R.

Higgins.
Police said Oheid, 33, a Shi'ite Muslim, was kidnapped from his second-floor apartment in the village of Jibchit, 18 kilometres north of the horder with Israel.

Obeid is reputed to be the spiritual guide of Hizbollah (Party of Godl in South Lebanon. However, he has repeatedly denied any links with the pro-Iranian group which is affiliated with factions holding most of the

17 foreign hostages in Lehanon. Security sources in South Lebanon, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Higgins was briefly held at Obeid's apartment after his abduction in South Lebanon Feb. 17, 1988.

One source said the late leader of the mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia in South Lehanon. Daoud Daoud, sent "a group of his followers to obtain Higgins' release from Obeid's apartment, but the force was encircled by Hizbollah gunmen, stripped of its weapons and sent back."

The source said Higgins' kidnappers, the Organisation of the Oppressed on Earth, later took the American marine out of Jibchii to another village in South Lebanon and then to the slums of South Beurut.

Daoud and Mahmoud Fagih, another Amal leader, were assassinated by unknown gurmen in South Beirut's seaside suburn of Ouzai Sept. 22, 1988. Amal blamed the killing on Hizhollah.

The two had led a four-day crackdown by Amal on Hizhollah in South Lebanon in April 1988. Higgins, 44, beaded an observer group attached to the United Nations peacekeeping force in

Lehanon at the time of his

abduction. He was kidnapped

near Daoud's base in the south-

ern port of Tyre. Obeid negotiated the safe with-drawal of Hizbollah gunmen and allied Iranian Revolutionary Guards from Jibchit, when the village of 18,000 residents was besieged by Amal after the kidnappers moved Higgins to another hideout.

Higgins' kidnapping was believed to be a major factor behind Amal's crackdown in the south, which left 62 dead and 150

A police spokesman said an Israeli helicopter landed a commando force about three kilometre west of Jibchit at 1 a.m. (2200 GMT Thursday).

He said a force of about 12 commandoes "walked into Jib-

chit, encircled Sheikh Obeid's three-storey building on the eastern edge of the village."
The spokesman said "someone

with the Israelis spoke Arabic. They knocked on the door and someone from the Sbeikh's family opened.

The Israelis quickly moved in pointing silencer-equipped pistols at the Sheikh, his cousin Ahmad Obeid and Majid Fahs, a friend who was staying with them."
"Sheikh Obeid's 25-year-old

wife. Mona, was locked in one of the rooms, her hands tied up and mouth plastered," the spokesman added.

As the Israeli force was leaving with the three men, a neighbour. Hussein Ahu Zeid, "apparently heard some noise and opened his door to find out what was happening. They shot him in the head and he died instantly," the spokesman added.

He said the Israelis also "locked the room where Sheikh Oheid's three sons and two daughters were sleeping. They didn't burt the children.

Abu Zeid's family informed the Amal militia, in charge of security in Jibchit, of the kidnapping, the spokesman said.



A Palestinian youth holds up stones as he stands on a main Arab Jerusalem street in front of burning tyres.

Chief rabbinate: Israel forbidden to withdraw

rabbis issued a religious ruling saying that under Jewish law Israel is forbidden to withdraw from the occupied West Bank, a spokesman said Friday.

In response, a left-leaning religious legislator accused the chief rabbinate of interfering in politics, and another politician called for an investigation of the coun-

try's highest religious body.

In the one-page published Friday, Israel's chief rabbis argued that "pikuach nefesh," a central idea in Judaism saying that saving life overshadows other religious commandments, does not stipulate occupied territories should be ahandoned.

Rabbinate spokesman Eitan Aizman interpreted the ruling this way: "The chief rabbis are saying: it is a religious commandment to retain the land of Israel in our hands.'

Israeli media reports said the ruling was issued in response to a statement by Israel's former chief rahbi Ovadiya Yosef, who told

TEL AVIV (AP) - Israel's chief , Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last week that balacha, or the body of Jewish religious teaching, justifies a land compromise as a matter of saving lives.

The chief rabbis' ruling refer-

red only to "Judea and Samaria,"
Israel's names for the West Bank, and did not mention the occupied Gaza Strip.

It was published a day after Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir made a first-thumping speech to a group of leading rabbis for retaining all occupied

'It's possible to reach peace without, heaven forbid, giving up grain of the boly land of our forefathers," Shamir declared. "Peace is not a monopoly of the traitors, concession-makers and defeatists."

The chief rabbinate said that prior to Israel's creation in 1948, some rabbis thought the country should not come into being because that way, bloodshed could be avoided and lives saved.

But already in 1948, it said, 'the chief rabbinate and most of the rabbis...ruled it was a Torah commandment to conquer the 'land of Israel' and bold on to it. We are also commanded to fight for it, and we should not abandon it because of Arab threats of bloodshed, since such is the way of the boly war."

The rabbinate said it was "surprised and sorrowful" because Jews could tell a "non-Jewish ruler: we are obliged by law to hold on to 'Judea and Samaria' but you are prepared to kill Jews if we don't withdraw. Therefore, we bave to withdraw.

Furthermore, it said, the claim of saving lives "ohliges us not to retreat from the borders we hold today...withdrawal of the Israeli army may increase the danger of fatal attacks from the abandoned territory."

The chief rabbinate is presided over by Israel's two chief rabbis, Mordechai Eliahu representing Sepbardi Jews from Middle Eastern countries and Avraham

Jews from Europe and America. Sephardis and Ashkenasis have eparate religious traditions.

Both the chief rabbis are highly respected religious arhiters.

Asked whether the ruling was decisive. rabbinate spokesman Aizman said: "There is an argu-ment about this in the country and it will continue."

Elazar Granot, a leader of the leftist Mapam Party, responded by demanding a governmental probe to determine whether the ruling "wasn't an explicit and serious deviation from the (rabbinate's) authority and wbether. proper sanctions shouldn't be taken against this deviation."

Ahraham Burg, a religious legislator from the Labour Party and the son of former Interior Minister Yosef Burg, charged that the rabbinate "became part of the political establishment and somehow lost its spiritual anthority, becoming a pawn in the political game."

Mauritania accuses Senegal of war moves

NOUAKCHOTT (Agencies) — Mauritania bas accused neighbouring Senegal of preparing for war and of sending armed men across the border to attack civi-

"Certain events lead us to the conclusion that Seneral is preparing to wage war against Maurita-nia." the Information Ministry said in a statement in Novakchott Thursday.

In April a minor dispute over grazing rights on the border be-tween the West African states erupted inot ethnic violence, leaving hundreds dead and creat-

ing thousands of refugees. Senegalese officials say incursions into Mauritania are: by refugees trying to recover livestock and possessions which they were prevented from taking with them.

The Mauritanian statement said Senegal was preparing international opinion for an attack, referring to remarks hy Sene-galese President Abdou Diouf on French radio earlier this month.

Diouf reasserted Senegal's claim to the fertile north hank of the Senegal River which separates the countries. The land is vital in a region which is fast disappearing under the en-croaching Sahara Desert. The Nouakchott statement said

Senegalese soldiers had been coming into Mauritanian territory north of the river "to kill peaceful citizens."

It said last week's letter by Senegal to the U.N. Security Council, accusing Mauritania of expelling members of its own black minority, was "a scarcely veiled way of saying the peace would be disturbed between Mauritania and Senegal."

An appeal Sunday by Amnesty International accusing Mauritanian security forces of torture. killings and arbitrary arrests was also "a sign of the preparation of this aggression," the statement

After the worst of the violence died down in April, Senegal re-

ported that large numbers of black Mauritanians were arriving,

saying they had been deported from their homeland. About 20 per cent Mauritania's two million people are black, with the others mostly Arabs and

Betbers. Nearly all of Senegal's
6.7 million people: are black.
Senegal wrote to the Security
Council last week saying about 26,000 people "have been driven from their own country solely by

reason of their ethnic origin. Mauritania replied in a statement Tuesday that the Sene-galese authorities were "refusing to accept their own nationals re-patriated from Manritania, under the fallacious pretext that they are Negro-African Mauritanians, against all the evidence."

Aid for Mauritania

Mauritania is to receive \$17 million in emergency aid to help resettle 200,000 refugees from the rioting in Senegal, a Mauritanian government minister said in

Moustapha Ould Abeiderrahmane, anipister for planning and employment, said the United States, Japan, France and the European Community (EC) had pledged most of the aid in the form of food, medicine and other essential items.

All but 30,000 refugees had now left temporary camps, he

Many of those remaining were Senegalese who had been mistaken for Mauritanians and sing-led out for attack because of their light skins, names or way of life, he said.

Mauritania appealed for help in resettlement at a meeting of aid donors under the auspices of the World Bank. These donors -including leading industrial nations, Arab funds and the World Bank — agreed in principle to provide up to \$200 million for public investments.

Rafsanjani, 'the shark,' cements hold on power

By Ed Blanche The Associated Press

NICOSIA - Hashemi Rafsanjani. the overwhelming favourite to become the fourth president of the Islamic Republie of Iran, is known to his countrymen as "kuseh" the

Some say this is because of his political ruthlessness and cuaning, as well as husiness acumes that has made him a millionaire, that he masks hehind a smile and a sly wit.

Others attribute it to his lack of facial hair, revealing his Mongolian ancestry, in a nation where beards are the hadge of revolutionary manhood.

Raisanjani's near-certain election is likely to cement the 55-year-old charismatic cleric's hold on power following the death of his mentor. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, June 3. His partnership with Ayatol-

lah Ali Khamenei, Khomeini's successor as religious leader and Rafsanjani's predecessor as president, is seen by many as signalling a new era in Iranian politics. Both men advocate rebuild-

ing bridges with the West, a move stymied in February when Khomeini decreed a death sentence on British author Salman Rushdie for allegedly blaspheming Islam in his novel, "The Satanic Verses" and plunged Iran into a new confrontation with the West.

for approval in a national referendum, being held at the same time as the election, give the presidency more powers than it has had since the 1979 revolution. Thus Rafsanjani will wield far greater influence than his predecessors.

Rafsanjani is a Hojatoleslam. has been a central figure in Khomeini's revolution. He was jailed for several years under the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi before he was toppled

in 1979.

He is reported to have survived several assassination attempts since then and to have crushed his rivals with brutal efficiency.

Like many Iranian leaders, who have seen their peers killed in the revolution's political macIstrom. Rafsanjani moves around Tehran in an armourplated limousine and is constantly surrounded by body-

He dominated the Mailis, Iran's parliament, after it was formed in 1980 and built up strong support among the 350,000-strong Revolutionary Guards Corps, which he briefly commanded, and Iran's critical

power centres. Rafsanjani was close to Khomeini throughout the revolutionary patriarch's 10 turbulent years as Iran's leader. For much of that time, he was the second most powerful figure in the country.

Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, Iran's first president who was forced to flee when hardliners turned on him in 1981, said before Khomeini died that Rafsanjani ingratiated himself with the Iranian leader by playing the court

"He's a man who makes peointerview in exile in France. "It's a great art. He uses this to gain his objectives.

Bani-Sadr said his erstwhile revolutionary colleague is a Machiavellian figure.

'Thirst for power'

"He's a political animal," he said. "He's not brilliant as an organiser and he doesn't have too many original ideas, but he's a manipulator and he's highly intelligent," Bani-Sadr

Rafsanjani played a crucial role in giving the Islamic revolution direction in its early days and during the eight-year war with Iraq. His rise was rapid under

Khomeini's mantle, fuelled by a thirst for power, according to diplomats and others who know During the war, Rafsanjani

was Khomeini's representative on the nine-man Supreme Defence Council, which determined military strategy.
In June last year, Khomeini

gave him control of military affairs, charging him with the task of reversing Iran's defeats in the war and welding its disspirited and fractious forces into an effective figling machine.

Ever tuned to the popular mood, diplomats said Rafsanjani bad for some time perceived a growing war weariness among Iran's 50 million and believed that con tinuing the conflict was futile.

Khomeini's obsessive bostility towards Iraqi President Saddam Hussein made peace impossible.

But when Rafsanjani saw just how bad a shape the military was in, he was able to finally convince Khomeini to accept to United Nations-sponsored ceasefire in July 1988. It took effect a month later.

"Rafsanjani, a conservative in social and economic policy, is a radical when it comes to the issue of exercising power by revolutionary institutions," Iranian exile Amin Taheri, former editor of Tehran's mass-circulation Kayhan daily, wrote in a recent book.

He said Rafsanjani was "a master of intrigue and a capable tactician" who was spotted as a future strongman by Western intelligence agencies as early as

To many Western leaders, Rafsanjani represents the more acceptable face of the Islamic revolution because he believes Iran cannot carry out the mammoth task of post-war reconstruction without help and that

most Iranians are weary of being pariahs to much of the world.

If the Americans have viewed Rafsanjani as a "moderate," a term that was little real meaning in the Byzantine bhyrinth of Iranian politics, his track record shows him to be firmly committed to the tion and its spread.

But it is his pragmatism some call it opportunism - that sets him apart from most of his

Rafsanjani was at the centre of the clandestine arms-for-bostages deal with the United States in 1985-86 and was left dangerously exposed when it was uncovered as his rivals sought to discredit him.

But, displaying the political agility he has used to survive Iran's often bloody in-fighting, be emerged on top.

Rafsanjani often delivers the sermon at the Friday prayer sessions at Tehran University. Clutching the barrel of an automatic rifle, his white turban tilted roguishly back on his head, he speaks for hours with-

out notes. Unlike other speak-

ers, he peppers his sermons with jokes. He was born Aug. 25, 1934, in the village of Behraman in Rafsanjan province, on the edge of Iran's central desert. His father was a pistachio far-

mer of moderate means. He was educated at the theological seminary in the holy



Hashemi Rafsanjani

city of Qom, where be first came to the attention of one of his instructors, Khomeini.

He joined Khomeini's opposition to the monarchy and helped organise anti-Shah riots in 1963. He was imprisoned several times after Khomeini was exiled to Iraq and claims he was tortured.

Rafsanjani helped mould the network of muliahs that became Khomeini's revolutionary underground. He went to Lebanon in 1975 to liaise with other

opposition groups.
He would later turn on them, as he did with Bani-Sadr, after the revolution was won and the mullahs began to systematically eliminate leftists, liberal and nationalists.

Iranian diplomat describes Vienna attack NICOSIA (AP) - An Iranian diplomat wounded in the shooting of Kurdish rebel leader Abdul Rahman Qassemlon in Vienna two weeks ago gave his first account of the incident Thursday

saying only one assailant was involved, Tehran Radio said. The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mohammad Jaafari Sahraroodi as saying Qassemiou, leader of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP)

questions put forth by the Iranian government during the July 13 meeting. He claimed that Qassemion, 59, had requested permission to return to Iran and an amnesty for

of Iran; was to answer certain

some Iranian Kurds. KDP officials have admitted that Qassemlou had been negotiating with Tehran, holding two sessions with Iranian diplomats in

December and January. They charted Tehran had set Qassemiou's death trap. Iraq and Iran's main opposition group, Mujahedeen-e-Khaiq, also have accused Iran of killing Qas-

semlou. Tehran has blamed Iraq. It said Iraqi agents killed Qassemlou to block a rapprochement between Tehran and Iranian Kurds, tradi-

tionally backed by Iraq.
One of two aides killed with Qassemiou was Fadhil Rassoul, an Iraqi Kurd with Austrian citizenship. Sahraroodi described Rassoul as a "Muslim intellectual and a friend of the Islamic republic."

Sahraroodi was shot in the mouth. He first was treated in Vienna and flown this week to Tehran.

Tehran Radio said he was still recovering at a hospital, but that he is now able to talk.

It quoted him as saying Qassemlou "had realised after 10 years of opposing the Islamic republic that negotiating with Iran was in his best interest."

"It was third meeting, at which we were to pose some questions them. It was about 7:10 p.m., and close to the end of the meeting," Sahraroodi said. "The flat was very small, and I was sitting directly in front of the

door. Suddenly an assailant burst the door open, and in a split second he shot me in the mouth. As I was falling to the ground, I was shot again twice in the arm. "I hit the floor, my bead hit a sofa," he said.

"I remember only that I was bleeding severely from the mouth and the neck. It took me 20 or 25 minutes to recover. I struggled to the street downstairs, where I was helped by passersby and taken to hospital," he said.

The Austrian police has issued an arrest warrant for two Iranians. One of them has been identified as Amir Mansour Bozorgian, a member of the Iranian negotiating team. The other has not been identified. Tehran has protested the action. The Kurds are an ethnic minor-

ity of some 28 million living in Turkey, Iran and Iraq and in small enclaves of about 500,000 each in Syria and the Soviet Union. Iraqi. Iranian and Turkish Kurds are seeking autonomy

from the central governments.

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

Constitutional reforms due

PRINGRAME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
17:30 Educational programme
17:30 Educational programme
18:00 News summary
18:65 Message from Iraq
Te. ne A play by Shakespence
14-14 Local programme
i Oracimine invest
28:90 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:49 Consumer's Guide
23:09
23:00
PROGRAMME TWO
18:10 Coulisses
News in French
A DIOUTH DUI OR IOTUANIC
19:30 News in Hehrew
19:50 News Phenomens
19:45 Natural Phenomena
20-06 News in Arabic

...... Saturday Variety Show

·Asr

CHURCHES St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifleh, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel.

W-100.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annuaciation Tel-
037440.
De la Saile Charch Tel. 601757
Terrasanta Church Tel: 622366
Church of the Annuaciation Tcl.
623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel.
628543.
Armenian Catholic Charch Tel.
771331.
Armenian Orthodex Church Tel.
775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Argun International Church Tel.
685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel:
811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

A slight rise in temperature will occur and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min/max, lemp.	ZARQA:
Amman 19/33	Dr. Nasha'at Ammari ()
Ayaba 75 / 40	Khalifeh pharmacy 985417
Deserts 10 / 10	
Jordan Valley 23 / 40	PURPORTURE
	EMERGENCIES
Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-	
man JJ. Anaba 38. Hutmidity readings.	Civil Defence Department 661111
Amman 18 per cent, Aqaba 36 per	Civil Defence Immediate
cent.	Rescue
	Civil Defence Emergency 199
The second secon	Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
USEFUL TELEPHONE	Fire Brigade
NUMBERS	Blood Bank 775121
ITURIDERS	Highway Police 843402
MIGHT BUTT	Traffic Police
NIGHT DUTY	Public Security Department
ANIMAN:	Hotel Complaints
Dr. Sami Khouri	Price Complaints 661176
Dr. Khaled Ma'adi 743500	Water and Sewerage
Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad 846070	Complaints 897467
Dr. Joseph Imsih 770560	Amman Municipality Complaints
Firas pharmacy 661912	
Ferdows pharmacy 778336	Telephone Information
Al Asema pharmacy 637055	(directory assistance) 121
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672	Overtest Calls 010730
	Central Ammun Telephone Repairs 623101 Abdal Telephone Repairs 661101
Al Salum pharmacy	Remairs:
Yacoub pharmacy 644945	Abdati Telephone Renaire 661107
Shmeisani pharmacy	Jordan Television
	Radio Jordan
IRBID:	
Dr. Ali Al Samman (—)	Water Authority
Al Sharaa pharmacy (985738)	Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

HOSPITALS

HIRSTON MCOICE CENTRE	
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amo	644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn.	
Jabai Amman Maternity	642362
Malhas, J. Ammen	
Palestine, Shmeisani	
Shmeisani Hospital	440121
University Hospital	646845
Al-Muasher Hospital	
The Islamic, Abdali	00012//3/
Al-Ahli, Abdali	064164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen	
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich	775111/26
Army, Marks	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	
ZAROA:	
Zarqa Govt Hospital	(00)083373
Zarqa National Hospital	(00)001071
The Sina Hospital	(00/096732
IRBID:	(09)3007.12
	Innuareer
Princess Basma Hospital	. (02)2/3033
Greek Catholic Hospital Ibo Al Nafees Hospital	(02)272275
too At Natices Hospital	. (02)247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111
<u> </u>	

FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT**

This information is supplied by Royal lordaman (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia International ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)

65:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur	œ
18:00	Damascus i	RJ)
19:15	Aqaba	RI
19:20	New Delhi	RJ
	Cairo	
	Dhahran (
10-44	Kewait	õr
10-00	Karachi, Dubai (~
10.50	Colombo (~
	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (
	Bughdad (
14343	New York, Montreal (KI)
17:20	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vie	una
	(RJ)	
17:45	(RJ) Cairo (RI
		,

18:15 Athens (RJ) 19:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ) 28:49 Other Flights (Termin

	07-05		laddah fadd	
	42-40		Acab	Χ.
- :	11-40		Trans	X
	12-10		Athen	Σ.
	12-15	Amsterda	n New York	Υ.
	12:30	***************************************	Baebdac	N
•	13:00	Ge	neva, Madrid	3
	13:00	***********	Londor	di.
	13:15	***************************************	Paris	a.
	13.30	Frank	furt, Brussels	ď.
•	13:45		Cairc	Ů.
-	20.36	111100-0104-0104-0	Disahran	4
	28:40		Kuwait	則
	77:45	В	alizani, Doha	4
	ZE:00		Lamaka	N.
•	21:10	*************	····- Jeddah	Ψ.
	21.20		Caire	10
	41:39	Abn I	July, Duba	ŲF
				•

Other Flights (Terminal 2) 13:00	Hees Baghdad (IA) 15:35 Cairo (MS) 15:35 Kuwait (KU) 16:45 Kuwait (LN) 18:40 Riyadh (SV) 18:55 Dubni (AZ) WARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. Apple (golden) 550 / 500
DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	Apple (Koshabi) 220 / 170 Apple (selckari) 280 / 240 Apple (red) 750 / 700 Banana 400 / 350 Banana (Mukammar) 350 / 300 Beans 300 / 250 Cabbage 70 / 40
97:00 Jeddah (add.) (RI)	Cautillower 260 / 220 180 / 150 Corn 170 / 130 Corn 170 / 130 Cucambers 350 / 300 figgplant 110 / 80 Garke 780 / 650 Grapes 220 / 180 Grapes (red) 180 / 150 Lemon (green) 300 / 250 Marrow 380 / 320 Okra 360 / 300 Orange 360 / 300
20:45 Bahrain, Doha RJ 21:20 Lamaka RJ 21:20 Lamaka RJ 21:24 Lamaka RJ 21:24 Cairo RJ 21:26 Aba Dhabi, Dabai RJ	Ouion (dry) 150 / 110 Peaches 500 / 400 Pepper (hot) 160 / 120 Pepper (sweci) 150 / 120 Pepper (sweci) 230 / 180 Tomstoes 90 / 50

Environment strategy conference starts today

MMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen loor Al Hussein, the national environment strategy project will tart its two-day conference at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in lmman Saturday.

Eight specialised committees have been set up from both the private and public sectors to take part in preparing strategies for the conservation of the environment in Jordan.

The eight committees were formed following the approval of the Prime Minister in view of the agreement that was signed on Sept. 19, 1988, between the Ministry of Rural and Ministryal Affairs and the Environment and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

A higher guiding committee was formed to be entrusted with drawing up environmental strategies and following up on the national environmental strategy.

The committee held its first meeting on April 4, 1989, presided over by the minister of rural and municipal affairs, and the environment during which it was decided that all relevant institutions in both the private and public sectors must take part in preparing the strategy.

The project was launched following six months of intensive studies in which the USAID contributed the sum of \$868.000 with

the Jordanian government contributing JD 68.000.

Discussions of the meeting will deal with: Antiquities and cultural resources; atmosphere and air quality; coastal and marine issues; energy and minerals; population and settlements; surface and ground water; wildlife and habitat, as well as agriculture. Attending the opening of the meeting will be Minister of Rural and Municipal Affairs and the Environment Yousef Hamdan Al Jabr, Mr. Awad Al Tal, undersecretary of the ministry, and Dr. Suffian Al Tal, director of the Department of Environment.

Opening speeches will be delivered by the minister and by Dr.

Queen Noor is the honorary president of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature.

On Oct. 6, 1988, Queen Noor was the distinguished guest at the celebration of the IUCN's 40th anniversary in Paris. She delivered a speech and was awarded the title of "Patron of IUCN" for her distinguished efforts in the conservation of the world's natural



Minister of Culture and Information Nasonh Al Majali Thursday a diploma to one of the graduates at Hittin Community

Majali stresses importance of citizens in development

and Culture Minister Nasouh Al Majali Thursday said that the Jordanian citizens lie at the heart country. of the development and building been hased on this concept.

graduates from Hittin Community College at a special ceremony held at the college Thursday, Majali said that Jordan is the offspring of the Great Arab Revolt, which sought Arab unity and independence.

"It is from this pan-Arab approach that the unity of the Arah people on both sides of the River Jordan was achieved in

Majali called on the graduates to work towards developing their who excelled in their studies.

AMMAN (Petra) - Information country and people and employing their knowledge and skills in the best interest of their

He called on them to be optiprocess of the country and that mistic about the future, to pretraditions, to rally behind their Addressing the fourth batch of country's leadership, and to work for achieving its objectives.

The college dean, Mohammad Suwwan, congratulated the graduates and called on them to

be faithful and dedicated soldiers of their country and stressed the importance of their interaction with the local community.

At the end of the celebration, Majali presented the 412 graduates with their diplomas also presenting special awards to those

GUVS to build Madaba rehabilitation centre

MADABA (Petra) - The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) will build a rehabilitation centre for handicapped people in Madaba at the cost of JD 50,000 and a tender has been already awarded to a local construction firm to carry out the project, according to Madaba District Governor Khalil

Khreisat said that the projected centre will have six rooms and workshops for the rehabilitation

Khreisat noted.

purchase and install all equipment and other facilities for the training programmes.

of handicapped children from all areas around Madaba.

GUVS will finance the training programmes for the handicapped children in cooperation with the local Saladdin Charitable Society which has provided a 10-dunum plot of land for the centre,

He said that GUVS will also

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * A plastic arts exhibition by the Student Affairs Department's Painting Chab of the Yarmouk University at the Housing Bank
- \Rightarrow An exhibition of photographs depicting various aspects of life in the Jordanian badia, at the Yarmouk University.

BAZAAR

 ★ The annual bazaar of the Hai Nazzal Social Development Centre which includes handicrafts such as embroidery, artificial flowers, dresses, knitwear, ornaments and children's toys.

THEATRE

☆ An Arabic play entitled "Thamanul Thill" (Price of a Shadow) at the Royal Cultural Centre - 8:00 p.m.

LECTURE

A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "Prespects of building the Palestinian Economy" by Dr. Fund Bseiso at Abdul Hamid



Her Majesty Queen Noor and Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat are seen Thursday with the participants in the second national gathering

for Jordanian women working and studying abroad at Al Nadwa Palace (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Queen Noor highlights women's role in serving national interests abroad

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday received at Al Nadwa Palace the participants in the second national gathering for Jordanian women working and studying abroad, and called on them to pursue their dedicated efforts towards serving their country, thus acting as Jordan's best ambassadors ahroad.

The meeting was attended by Youth Minister Awad Khleifat and the Ministry's secretary general.

Queen Noor met with the paricipants from 11 countries and asked about their impressions concerning the gathering.

The Queen inquired about their studies and living conditions and stressed the need for more similar gatherings, so as to strengthen the students' sense of belonging to their homeland.

His Majesty King Hussein then made a surprise appearance when he came and welcomed the Queen's guests.

The second national gathering, organised by the Youth Ministry for 60 Jordanian girls, working or studying abroad, concluded here Thursday.

Addressing the gathering at a special ceremony held at Al Hussein Youth City, Khleifat highlighted the importance of such gatherings, saying that they are and their country. aimed at enhancing the ties of During the week friendship and cooperation between female Jordanian youth opportunity to get first hand in- on various issues.

formation about the cultural and scientific developments of their country as well as to visit the.

archaeological sites. Khleifat said that the idea of holding such gatherings is a true translation of the ministry's concern for providing comprehensive and halanced care for all Jordanian youths.

The minister stressed that the gathering has achieved its ohiectives and has provided an opportunity to a meaningful dialogue between participants and decision makers on a number of social. educational, national and pan-Arab issues.

Khleifat pointed out that the relation between the ministry and the Jordanian youth abroad does not end by the end of the gathering, but will continue through continuous contacts.

At the end of the gathering, the minister presented participants with certificates of appreciation. On Saturday a total of 100 vouths will start their week-long

nent youth camp. The camp, the third of its kind for Jordanian male youths, is also organised hy the Ministry of Youth for Jordanian youths

working or studying abroad to

strengthen ties between the youth

annual event at Ajloun perma-

During the week-long event, the youth will listen to lectures on political, intellectual, cultural and and giving the Jordanian girls hold dialogue with senior Jorda-working and studying ahroad the nian officials and decision-makers



Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday welcomes one of the participants of the gathering during a reception at Al Nadwa Palace (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan')

Society to promote exports, local goods

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Society for the Protection of Consumers constituent assembly held its first meeting Thursday and elected a sub-committee responsible for reformulating the Society's objectives and pur-

Addressing the gathering, Health and Social Development Minister Zuhair Malhas said that the formation of the Society was triggered by the current economic conditions in Jordan and unjustifiable price hikes.

Hamzeh said that the Society aims to enhance confidence between consumers and producers and to direct consumers to local-ly-produced item of quality similar to imported items and to encourage national exports. Hamzeh also said that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has been a pioneer in advocating the formation of such a society.

He outlined the Society's. objectives, saying that it was originally designed to create public awareness of consumer items, to change negative consumption patterns and build new positive values instead.

The Society, which will be offi-cially registered, will familiarise consumers with sound means of and other consumer products.

The society, to supply consumers with information on the quality of commodities, their nutri- information on their prices. nonal value, advantages and dis-



dealing with food supplies, drugs Health and Social Development Minister Zuhair Malhas Thursday chairs the constituent assembly meeting of the National Society for the Protection of Consumers in Amman (Petra photo)

it will also recommend to the advantages of such items and appropriate authorities that leg-

islation to protect consumers from fraud and price manipulations he enacted.

Seminar urges improvement in wastewater treatment

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day symposium on the use of wastewater after treatment concluded Thursday with a call for the enactment of new laws regulating the treatment of wastewater and re-using it in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

The symposium recommended that appropriate health control planning stage for re-using treated water in light of the instructions issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Participants called for holding national symposia with a view to promoting the specifications set by WHO to monitor the wastewater treatment process.

measures be adopted during the the Regional Centre for Environ-

mental Health Activities (CEHA) to take the lead in disseminating information on the hazards posed by the incorrect use of treated water in irrigation. They praised the water treatment and purification plant at Khribet Al Samra for its observance of the instructions issued by WHO.

The symposium was organised They also called on WHO and hy the Health Ministry, in coopranon with WHO, to discuss the

various experiences in the field of wastewater treatment in the East Mediterranean region.

The symposium was attended hy representatives of 11 Arah countries: Jordan. Egypt. Iraq. Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Yemen Arab Republic. South Yemen, Sudan, Syria, and Tunisia, as well as observers for various institutions in Jordan.

Workshop discusses role of women in elections

workshop on women and parliamentary elections was held Thursday at the Irbid chapter of the Federation of Jordanian Women, with a number of writers, journalists and federation

members participating.
Addressing the workshop, Laila Sharaf, former information minister, said the door is now wide open to women to advance one of the most important

IRBID (Petra) — A one-day rostrums of decision making, through their active involvement in the forthcoming parliamentary elections and the legislative

By doing so, Sharaf said, women would move from the role of recipient who is affected hy the top-level decisions and laws to the role of the influential maker of such decision and laws.

She added that women's in-

life will pave the way for them "to effectively contribute towards shaping the kind of the community which we want, through enacting the legislations and laws that meet women's demands, and take into consideration their status as employees, as housewives and as people who contribute to the general economic movement in

their community." Sharaf pointed on that elecvolvement in the parliamentary tion and additional right for

women and described it as the first step on the way to achieving independent decisions.

The workshop is aimed at training women leaders on how to create and spread awareness on elections, to explore potentials on the women's sector and try to use them in the forthcoming elections, coordinating women's election campaigns throughout the

Premier voices support for cultural sector

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Sharif Zaid 1hn Shaker Friday stressed the government's support for the cultural sector in Jordan and voiced his interest in providing the appropriate climate to enable it to further prosper and flourish and to enhance the cultural and artistic ties.

representing the Jordanian theatre, plastic artists and musicians, Sharif Zaid called on the and art work.

for the creation of a qualitative. Jordan's image at the pan-Arab organisation which will be en- level. trusted with organising the cultuing the legal framework for it.



At a meeting with a delegation Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker

The presidents of the associations briefed Sharif Zaid on their mass media to play an effective contribution towards developing role in supporting the local cultu-ral movement and to encourage country, saying that they played a all forms of innovative cultural tole in highlighting the national and cultural identity through the Sharif Zaid also voiced support various art works, which reflected

The meeting was attended by ral and artistic sector and provid- Minister of Information and Cuiture Nasouh Al Majale

Bank to sell foreign currency to students

AMMAN (Petra) - The Huusing Bank Saturday starts, selling foreign currency to Jordanian students studying abroad to help them cover their study fees and living costs, a spokesman for the bank said Friday.

The source explained that in order for students to qualify for this service they must present an official letter from the university of educational institute stating that they are a regular student. This letter should be certified by the Ministry of Higher Education or by the Jurdanian cultural attache at the country

where the individual is studying. The students should also support the university's letter with another document or letter from the Higher Education Minustry stating that they are studying at their own expense.

The bank fixed the amount of foreign currency any student car get monthly at \$200 for those studying in the Soviet Union or in East European countries, \$300 for those attending universities in the Arab World, Pakistan, India and Philippines, and \$500 for those attending universities in the United States or Western

Jordan to mark decade of culture

AMMAN (Petra) - Minister of the undertaking of a serious study to develop and promote tradi-Information and Culture Nasouh Al Majali Thursday stressed the importance of developing cultural work through a national effort

involving many parties. Addressing the second meeting of the Jordanian national committee in charge of preparations for the International Decade for Cultural Development, Majali highlighted the importance of the resentation base to include Arabic language and called for its simplification with a view to its becoming the language of simple

cultural communication. Majali, who chaired the meeting, noted the important role the Academy of Arabic Language can play in this field.

He stressed the need for drawing up a plan of action designed

to upgrade handicrafts through

working paper prepared by the Information Ministry on means of developing and apgrading the cultural sector.

tional handicrafts.

collect it.

hroader sectors.

The meeting was attended by Ministry of Culture Secretary General Hani Al Amad and held at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The minister called for the col-

lecting of the heritage, study et it.

and an effort to define the types

The committee discussed its

The committee also discussed a

priorities, appropriate work for-

mulas, and expansion of the rep-

of heritage and the bodies to

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CZECH MINISTER: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Manister Marwan Al Oasem Thursday received Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Yarumeir Niheira and reviewed with him bilateral relations. Earlier, the ministry's secretary general. Mu'tasem Bibesi, reviewed with the Czech guest means of developing bilateral cooperation in the economic and commercial fields and discussed the latest developments in the region, and particularly the Palestine question. Bilbeisi voiced Jordan's appreciation of Cocebonlovakia's support of Arab rights and for the Palestinian people's their legitimate rights on their national soil.

ACC TRADE, ECONOMIC MINISTERS HOLD TALKS: Trade and economy ministers from the four-nation Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) met in Baghdad Thursday for talks on policy coordination, the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) said. The ACC established in February by Iraq, Egypt, North Yemen and Jordan, aims to achieve economic integration to pave the way for an eventual Arab common market. Leaders of the four countries agreed his month to abolish visa requirements and promote free movement of workers. But Iraqis still need permission to leave the country

ZAWAIDEH RECEIVES SUDANESE ENVOY: Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh Thursday discussed with the Sudanese ambassador to Jordan scopes of cooperation particularly in the field of housing and construction. (Petra)

IMF TEAM VISIT JPC: The deputy director general of the Jordan Ports Corporation [JPC] Thursday met with a delegation representing the International Monetary Fund currently on a visit to Jordan. The talks dealt with the JPC role in bolstering Jordan's economic The delegation also visited Aqaba Customs Department and was briefed on its activities. (Petra)

U.S. STUDENTS VISIT JPC: A U.S. student delegation has visited the Jordan Ports Corporation (JPC) and was briefed on its establishment as well as its role in linking Jordan with the world to boost Jordan's national economy. (Petra)

SALT CENTRE EMPLOYEES LEAVE FOR ITALY: Five employees of the Salt Handicraft Training Centre have left for Italy to participate in an advanced training course in pottery and knitting During the eight-month course, they will participate in practical and technical training courses and visit museums and exhibitions specialised in handicraft. This course is intended to prepare local cadres in the field of pottery and knitting capable of training students enrolled in the centre. (J.T.)

ACC CULTURE, INFORMATION MINISTERS TO MEET: The Arah Cooperation Council (ACC) ministers of culture and information will hold their first meeting on Aug. 11 in Baghdad. The two-day meetings will be devoted to setting a new cultural and information strategy among the ACC member countries. Itagi Culture and Information Minister Nsayyif Jasem said.

Jordan Times

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DR. WALEED M. SADI Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation. University Road, P.O. Box 6710. Amman, Jordan.

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Inflation and interest rates

THERE is unanimity bere and abroad that stabilising the Jordanian currency is a sine qua non for revitalising the country's national economy. There is also consensus within and outside the country that the Jordanian dinar is undervalued. Sandwiched between these two propositions is the wide agreement that inflation in Jordan is doubledigital by all conservative estimates. Yet the interest rate still payable on Jordanian currency accounts is wantonly repugnant to all the foregoing well-established premises.

All over the world, the first thing that official financial circles do to combat high inflation and rapid devaluation of national currencies is to bike up interest rate on their respective national deposits. In Jordan, for reasons 'Il nndetermined, interest rate offered by national ban. on Jordanian deposits is recklessly below the ongoing rate of inflation. The end result has been the continuation of the double-digital inflationary rates and the nose dive of the exchange rate applicable to the Jordanian dinar versus the principal hard currencies of the world. This is not to mention the fact that Jordanian depositors are earning below zero returns on their accounts.

In short what the dinar and the Kingdom need now is the application of a realistic interest rate that offers the Jordanian depositor some value over and above the inflationary rate. The Central Bank of Jordan is the very official fiscal agency which should prescribe this realistic interest rate. The other banks in the country would be forced to follow suit or risk losing their deposits. The cumulative effect of such measures would be the urgently wanted prescription to the end the artificially low exchange rate of the dinar and at the same time stem the dangerous inflationary rate that has hit the country of late.

Clearly such proposed ideas cannot on their own solve the economic and fiscal woes of the country. The Central Bank of Jordan has already embarked on the application of many potent policies to reverse the tide in the Jordanian economy and to adjust the country's fiscal result of which the country is impatiently waiting for. Nevertheless the adoption of a realistic interest rate payable on Jurdanian accounts is an indispensable feature of the entire programme to ameliorate the economic and fiscal conditions in the country. The sooner Jordan and Jordanians shift to this pragmatic course the better it would be for the whole Kingdom.

Jordan Press Editorials

Al Ra'i Arabic daily commented on tsrael's request to France to support the Shamir elections plan in the occupied Arab lands. The paper said that the request represents a new Israeli move in the European arena to obtain support for Shamir and his manoeuvres following Israel's failure to secure this support a few weeks ago from the European Community countries. The community's declaration issued in Madrid was a clear support by Europe for the international conference which is opposed by Israel and which is an essential element for peace in the Middle East, said the paper. The move comes in the wake of that declaration in which the European leaders expressed deep concern over the loss of innocent life in the Arah lands as a result of Israel's atrocities and repression, the paper added. Therefore, the paper said, the new Israeli move is a new hid to foil the Madrid declaration and an attempt to impose Israel's propaganda on European nations. But, said the paper, such moves can never deceive the French government and people; and Paris will sooner or later renew its commitment to the Madrid declaration which calls for a total peace in our region.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily expresses fear that the Lebanese arena is gradually becoming substitute for the Iraq-tran conflict which ended in the Gulf a year ago. Mahmoud Al Rimawi launches a strong attack on Iran which, he says, is imposing its influence on the warring factions, continually disrupting the mediation efforts of the Arab League committee and trying hy all means to keep the war simmering for the purpose of achieving its regional objectives. The writer commends the various Arab mediation committees for their sincere efforts to end the crisis in Lebanon and refers to decisions by the leaders of Algeria and Saudi Arabia in postponing their visits abroads as clear indication of their involvement in endeavours to bring peace to Lebanon. He says that Iran which continues to display its hatred to the Arabs and bostile attitude to traq and the Gulf states is now trying to undermine all the peace efforts in Lebanon by providing weapons to its surrogates there under the pretext of preparing the ground for an Islamic republic, Iranian style. The writers says that the Iranians who lost the war in the Gulf are now trying to carry it to Lehanon at the expense of the tortured Lebanese people.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented on the situation in Lebanon and said that the current indiscriminate shelling is barvesting thousands of innocent lives. The paper said that the blood bath in Lebanon is not only caused by the Lebanese warring factions themselves but is beingfuelled by outside forces which want to see the Arab country destroyed. The Arab League committee which is trying to find a way to end the crisis, can and should expose these forces behind the present escalation in the fighting, and must announce the facts about the situation in Beirut, the paper added. It said that the Arab League committee should even be given the power to impose peace by force on all the parties lest the danger can spread to the other parts of the Arah World with detrimental consequences to Arab society.

Cools kidnap — heating up an old wound?

By P.V. Vivekanand

THE MYSTERIOUS kidnapping in May of a long-term British resident of Beirut and the demands issued by a hitherto unknown group which claimed responsibility for the abduction have reopened one of the sorest spots in the history of the Palestinian liberation struggle — the assassination of one of the best-known and popular artists in the Arab World. At the same time, it also threw some light into the constant workings of the Israeli secret

service machinery which spare no opportunity to undermine the credibility of the Palestinian struggle and its leaders.

The "Cells of Arab Struggle." which claimed the abduction of Peter Cools in west Berrit, has demanded the release of Palestinian prisoners" beld in Britain in connection with the July 1987 killing of Palestinian satire artist Naji Al Ali Al Adhami; but Scotland Yard insists that it bas no such prisoners. For whatever it is worth, the Yard bas been reported as saying, all it has to remotely account for in the case is someone who appears to be an agent for the infamous Israeli secret service, Mossad, who had penetrated Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) ranks in Britain and who is currently serving a long sentence for possession of explosives, arms and ammunition, allegedly intended for "Palestinian sabotage operations." It is a mystery how the case of the "double-agent" was mentioned in the Adhami affair since once could detect little, if any, link between the two. Obviously, there is more to it than meets the eye and no-one wants to part

with information. However, as far as it appears, no-one directly linked to the Adbami killing is beld in any British prison.

There has been no publicised report on the Cook' abduction since the kidnappers issued their demands, except that his wife was quoted as saying in the second week of July that he remained missing. If there are any clandestine "negotiations" over the bestage, then we are not pricy to them.

bostage, then we are not privy to them. But, the questions that still hang in the air are: Are the alleged kidnappers genuinely seeking the release of the double-agent in Britain, "Sowan," or of someone else whom Scotland Yard has been keeping under wraps? What could possibly be the identity of

If it is Palestinian, it is unlikely that the group is seeking the release of "Sowan," unless of course its aim is to extract revenge from the Israeli agent for whatever he did to PLO ranks in Britain or, remotely still, to gain information on the Adhami killing. There is also the possibility that "Sowan" was involved in some other shadowy operation of which we know nothing about and which could have triggered a personal vendetta against him or a even far-fetched rescue attempt.

For all we know, Cook was not exactly "kidnapped" for political purposes; one needs no reminder that there are hundreds of militia-held prisoners in Lebanon with very little political purpose being served by their continued detention. It is not

inconceivable that Cools somehow got entangled with some private feud and hence was abducted.

But, we are left with the strong possibility that the so-called "Cells of Arah Struggle" is a product of Mossad imagination. However, we can discount a scenario where Mossad would stage such a stunt with the aim of securing the release of Sowan, simply because there is no possibility that Britain would release the convict; particularly in the aura of publicity that surrounded the Cools kidnap case. That leaves us with a situation where the alleged kidnap group was simply trying to remind the world of the "terrorist" nature of the Palestinian people by reopening the Adhami murder and resurrecting an accusing finger at the Palestinian leadership.

First suspects

However, somewhere along the line, there is a slight hitch.

When the cartoonist was guined down in London in July 1987, the immediate suspects that entered the picture were some leaders of the mainstream Palestinian movement. Charges and counter-charges started flying around, prompting the PLO teadership and some independent members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) to launch an internal probe into the killing. Simply, the aim of the probe was to ascertain whether any PLO leader who had had the misfortune to have come under the hard-bitting pen of Adhami had any links with the murder,

The eight-month inquiry, conducted by a special Palestinian panel made up of representatives of all mainstream Palestinian factions as well as independent PNC members, concluded in early 1988 that it could not come up with any evidence of PLO involvement in the murder, according to reliable sources. The inquiry was conducted with the ntmost sincerity and seriousness, particularly that some of the panel's members were close friends of Naji (Adhami) and respected him for his nationalist views," according to one source.

It was no secret that Adhami had acquired the bostility of some Arah as well as PLO leaders, including Yasser Arafat, as a result of direct, unreserved attacks on what the artist saw as "insincere" Arab feelings towards the Palestinian struggle and "betrayal of the cause" by some Palestinian leaders. Another target of the cartoonist was the "burgeois lifestyle" of some PLO leaders. He did not spare the Iranians either; he ridiculed their Islamic revolution and its leaders.

The findings of the Palestinian inquiry indicated that "external hands" were behind the murder, according to the sources. "It could have been Iranian or Arab, but in all probability it was Mossad," said one of the sources. "However, there was no absolute proof to support such a clear-cat final conclusion."

But, despite everything, there was always a feeling among Palestinian circles that they were "missing something" in the whole cpisode.

In addition to Arafat several others in the top echelon of the PLO also had made no secret of their dislike for Adhami and his illustrations of what he charged were the PLO leadership's deviations from the central course towards the goal of an independent Palestinian state. His works, some of the most popular among Arab nationalists, clearly said he had saw some of the PLO leaders "abandoning the Palestinian cause" and flirting with "imperialist-Zionist schemes." Another constant theme in his works was the living styles of some PLO leaders whom he

portrayed as corrupt and luxury-loving with little care for the suffering of the Palestinians living in squalid refugee camps.

"If the aim of the people behind the murder was to create disarray among the PLO ranks by indirectly pointing the finger at the PLO leaders, then they did succeed, though to a limited extent." extent," according to a senior Palestinian leader. "Disarray and mutual suspicion were aroused, but the PLO leaders did not allow the situation to get out of hand and the inquiry belped very much to clear the air."

Individual action?

According to independent sources, many in the PLO believed that some of Arafat's close aides could have had a band in the assassination without the knowledge of the chairman,

Fatch was known to be the most loose-knit PLO faction despite its numerical and commando strength. Many Fateh members have resorted to individual actions without top-level approval, Obviously, the inherence in the charges against Fateb was that one or more of its leaders or juniors could have decided to "do away with a cartoonist who was not exactly in the good books of the leadership..." said a source.

According to a North African source, the assassination also created ripples in a secret dialogue between Fateh leaders and the

notorious Abu Nidal, whose extremist breakaway group has been blamed for dozens of reported and unreported attacks in Europe biamed for dozens of reported and unreported attacks in Europe and the Middle East. The source said the Libyan-sponsored dialogue, which started immediately after a PNC meeting in Algiers in 1987 when Abu Nidal made a vain attempt to rejoin the PLO, was aimed at seeking some means of "legitimising" the group some of whose members are wanted in several European and Middle Eastern countries on charges of murder and sabotage. The dialogue was based on an and acceptancing that Abu Nidal was The dialogue was based on an understanding that Abu Nidal was "suspending all violent attacks "outside Palestine." This dialogue also afforded the group to rebuild a strong presence in Palestinian camps in South Lebanon where Fateh presence bave always been

According to the source, the dialogue was "frozen" for some time immediately after the attack on Adhami since Abu Nidal and some Fateb leaders accused each of other of being behind it. "Abn Nidal maintained his innocence by pointing out that he shared and supported the views of Adhami and stood to a lose of

snared and supported the views of Adhami and stood to a lose of stannch Palestinian nationalist," said the source. "He levelled a counter-charge against the PLO leadership."

"One of the first wreaths to arrive at Adhami's funeral was from Abu Nidal," the source said. "Abu Nidal also sent a personal message of condelences to the Al Adhami family."

The Fateh-Abu Nidal dialogue, conducted personally by PLO deputy military commander Khahil Al Wazir, who was assassinated in Tunic last wear by seems believed to be Israelis, resumed ated in Tunis last year by agents believed to be Israelis, resumed after both parties "assured each other of their innocence in the Adhami murder," the source added. (The status of the dialogue is not known today, but it is a safe assumption that it cooled off after the PLO leadership adopted a moderate approach to peace efforts

Mossad connection

in November 1988).

The whole episode of the Adhami murder took a turn in November 1987 when it was reported that Scotland Yard had "stumbled" onto a Mossad agent had first claimed to know the biller of Adhami According to the smooth the agent was killer of Adhami. According to the reports, the agent was identified as "Bashar Samara," but he was never charged with any crime in Britain. He was "expelled" to Israel for "for bis own safety" because of his record as an undercover agent for Mossad, according to the reports.

It was at this point, it appears, that lingering doubts of many Palestinians were but to rest since something like the Adhami murder was right up Mossad's alley. For many, it was enough to know that Mossad was somehow involved in the affair. By conjecture, for the Israeli secret service, the assassination could conjecture, for the Israeli secret service, the assassination could have served at least two purposes; the first, getting rid of a Palestinian who could whip up nationalist emotions among thousands with a stroke of his pen, and, the second, placing a smoking gun right at the PLO leadership's door. And then the Sowan arrest hit the press, leaving the PLO redfaced because of its apparent security negligence in London, and perhaps elsewhere in Europe, in allowing its ranks to be infiltrated by Israeli agents. But, it was also a blessing in disguize for the PLO leadership since its please of improvement in the Adhami murder were leadership since its pleas of innocence in the Adhami murder were villified with the emergence of Mossad onto the scene.

The question remains: What purpose could be served with the Cools "kidnap" or the related/unrelated demands issued by his "abductors" at this point in time? Coming as it does amid intensified Palestinian peace moves and conflicting Israeli signals. the only explanation to the affair appears to lie somewhere along the line that it is another of those staged dramas where the Israelis — or any other interested party — could add some more colour and cast old/new doubts over the PLO's distance from "terrorism" and its quest for peace.

Reason versus despair

By Abba Eban

NEW YORK - The only thread that now separates the Israeli-Palestinian area from early explosion is the fact that the United States is in simultaneous discourse with all the parties. Ending the American-Palestinian dialogue now would lead to despair of peace, escalation of violence and growth of extremism on both sides of the conflict.

It would be injurious to Israeli interests for the United States to withdraw its restraining presence from this arena.

It is gratifying to know that this is a general view in official Washington and that it is sbared hy many Israelis and by some important Jewisb organisations. Talking to a Palestinian pobtical organisation does not imply an

certificate of approval. The mod-Churchill's phrase, "are not a grace to be conferred but a convenience to be used."

It is unrealistic to assume that Israel can appoint its own negotiating team and also appoint the team of its adversaries. This notion has no precedent in international history. It assumes that there are Palestinians with attributes of leadership who could be induced to emerge from anonymity, defy the Arab consensus and form a separate delegation totally independent of the PLO. The search for such partners has not

had a single success. would be for Israel to accept the negotiating process?

The U.S. decision at the end of

recommend a list of Palestinians ern functional view is that di- who would be authentic interioplomatic contacts, in Winston cutors for a discussion of the proposed elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

> With no operative peace prop-osal on the table and in the absence of contact between Israel and the PLO, American good offices are a valuable benefit, not a burden. When the United States ca-

courages the PLO to let its supporters run for election, the Bush administration merits appreciation. Can anyone seriously believe that a Palestinian organisation that can get 159 governments to affirm its representative status can be totally and permanently A more bopeful approach excluded from influencing the

Palestinian arena and to send messages of cool reason into that feverish domain has already had some positive results. It has given the United States an appropriately dominant role in the Israeli-Palestinian context. It has stimmlated a positive change in the rhetoric and ideology of the Palestinian movement. It has made Palestinian nationalism anxiously sensitive to American reactions. It has correspondingly weakened the Soviet monopoly in

nationalist thinking. And it has had important results on the ground. This became evident in the statement of Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the Knesset in March, to the effect that the armed groups in Lebanon, who are under the authority of the mainstream PLO

an important sector of Arab

last November from infiltrations or armed attack into Israel, and that, accordingly, "the Israel Defence Forces do not seek to engage them."
It is essential to press Palesti-

nians for a more constant illustration of realism. But to assert that nothing important has already happened would be unconvincing. The immediate urgency is to restore the understandings and the reticences that made it possihie to embark on a modest but useful Israeli initiative. If this is achieved, the next task will be to understand the need for innova-

There are no dangers in an Israeli-Palestinian agreement that can compare to the volcanic certainties of a status quo that obscures 'our peace vision, weakens our economy, injures

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our tourism, distorts our image. acknowledgement of virtue or a or the United States, which might 1988 to enter the awkward leadership, had abstained since erodes our international friendships, divides our nation, torments the Jewish dispersion and undermines our most cherished Jewish and democratic values. To negotiate with Arab interlocutors from a position of Isracli strength does not imply any acceptance of their views on final status or boundaries.

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It is natural for Israelis in the light of historic experience to be more aware of dangers than of opportunities. But this tendency must be transcended if we are ever to move out of deadlock. This is one of the rare cases in which leaving things as they are could be the most reckless of all adventures. By maintaining a policy of active presence, America can add to its many acts of service to Israel's destiny and to its own vocation of peace - The Washington Post.



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Too many, with too little to share

By Clare Pedrick

ASHINGTON, D.C. - The rid's population is out of coni, running a headlong course ards a disastrous combination even greater poverty in the eloping countries, ecological os and possibly war, was the clusion presented by leading esmen gathered here for an ernational symposium on rld issues.

ly the year 2000, the number people crowded onto this net is expected to reach 5 ion — four times the figure at beginning of the century en the world's population was y 1.4 billion.

t present, the human explosishows no sign of slowing vn. According to former West rman Chancellor Helmnt unidt, one of nearly 30 politins attending the four-day eting, the situation is now ond repair. "At the moment, problem is an insoluble one. unidt, a former leader of the nal-Democrat Party, said. overnments m China and Inhave tried to tackle it, but hout any real success. Most er governments of developing intries have not addressed the jor reasons that development has not really brought about progress in the developing

According to the latest figures ilable, the developing coms now account for more than ee-quarters of the world's oulation. By contrast, their ss annual product (GNP) ounts for only 16 per cent of world's total. "Virtually all of population increase between v and the year 2000 will take ce in developing countries, ther exacerbating this imbace," Schmidt noted. "If nankind continues along its



A leading member of Germany's Social-Democrat party, former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt warns about the danger of overpopulation.

economic wealth aggravated by population growth in the various regions of the world may become a source of conflict, possibly degenerating into war.

In China, a country whose 1.1 billion inhabitants account for a massive 21 per cent of the world's population, leaders have warned that the problem could seriously hamper the country's plans for social and economic reform.

Said Mr. Huang Hua, a former foreign minister for China, and currently the Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress: "In China the population explosion is

an extremely serious problem, and it is becoming more acute every year. The annual increase in the number of people being born is 15 million, which is almost the same as the population of Australia. These people need food, clothing, water, energy, transportation, education and medical care, and when they grow up, they expect the government to find them a job. Traditionally our country is rich in natural resources, but because we are having to divide them up among so many people, the per-capita ratio is lower than the

According to estimates by the tages. There are often power hinese government, by the year cuts, and the traffic and trans-Chinese government, by the year 2030 the population will have reached 1.6 billion people. At this point, officials warn, China will no longer able to feed itself. We have calculated that this shouting. "It's terrible." year will represent the final limit Since China introduced a fami-

that the land can support," said Huang Hua. 'The ecology will deteriorate, pollution will become more acute, and education will suffer, which in turn will have an impact on our economic and cultural development." "Past backwardness has already meant that our education facilities have been insufficient to meet the needs of the people," he added. "There are still 200 mil-

China, and if the population con-tinues to increase, this situation can only get worse."
China's overcrowding has already produced a problem usually only associated with noncommunist nations — the specter of unemployment, which may have played a part in the tragical-ly ended students' revolt this spring. Officials in Beijing admit that one sixth of the Chinese

workforce is "surplus labour."
"Many of these people actually have oo joh. They are unem-ployed," Huang Hua said. "In such cases, the relatives provide food, clothing and housing, but in China unemployment is beginning to cause social instability. In a society where people are expected to provide for their their families, there are some who are no longer able to perform this

hon illiterate or semi-illiterate

people over the age of 40 in

"Many people have been forced to move from the rural areas to look for jobs in the cities, which has caused problems of over-crowding," he added. "In the 10 major metropolitan centres, whee the population is more than 5 million, there are problems of housing and water shorportation system are chaotic. The buses are badly overcrowded; people are packed in tightly. There is a lot of pushing and

ly-planning programme, back in 1970, the birthrate has begun to slow down. The annual growth rate of 1.6 per cent in 1976 has been cut to the present figure of 1.4 per cent - lower than that of India and most African countries. What makes China the world's most pressing case, say officials, is the country's vast base population. "Our difficulty is that oo matter how drastically we reduce the percentage of the birthrate, we are starting off from such a huge number of people," Huang

China's family planning programme has centred on providing counselling in schools, neigh-bourhood committees and women's groups, and distributing contraceptives. Parents are offered priority schooling and medical care for their offspring if they agree to committ themselves to having just one child.

În Nigeria, Africa's most de nsely populated nation with 120 million citizens - one sixth of the continent's total — the govern-ment has introduced an education programme which recommends that each couple have a maximum of four children. The country's population has tripled since 1960 and is expected to rise to 162 million in the year 2000, with one of the highest rates of growth in the world. In 1986 Nigeria was world's 10th most populous country, but the United Nations has forecast that it will rank fourth. behind China, India and the USSR, but ahead of the U.S., but

the year 2025. General Olusegun Ohasanjo, who served as head of Nigeria's



Huang Hua of China sees a direct link between overpopulation and social unrest.

federal military government from 1976 to 1979, believes that the limit on children should be two per couple. "If the present policyis implemented faithfully we should begin to see a reduction in our population; but I, myself, think we should move even faster," he noted during an interview between sessions of the international conference. "I am very concerned about the situation. If we do not do enough to

alleviate the problem, then all the

development aid and program-

mes will come to nothing. According to Ohasanjo, ignorance and poverty are the main stumbling blocks in the fight to control Nigeria's population explosion. Couples, especially in the rural areas have traditionallyhad large families as an insurance policy against an impoverished old age, and to compensate for the risk of losing children through infant mortality. "Education is the key to solving the problem, particularly among women,' Ohasanjo said. "If you can persuade people that if they just have two

children, those two children will

have a better chance of survival. and if you then address the issue of povery, so that people no longer need to be looked after in their old age, then you are on the road towards a solution."

In China, too, education is the key word, Huang Hua noted. "In the cities, among the workers and intellectuals, the problem is not so acute. When both the hushand and wife are working and leading busy lives, one child is usually enough trouble for them to cope with." he said. "In the rural areas it is different. The peasants still believe that more boys means more riches — a bigger labour force, which in turn means greater wealth. If a couple has three girls, they will often have a fourth (haby) in the hope that it will be a boy. If it is not, they have a fifth,

and so on. It's almost, if not completely out of control." Both Ohasanjo and Huang Hua agreed that more belp is needed from the developed countries, and in particular from the U.S., which three years ago withdrew its 25 per cent contribution to the U.N. Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), an organisation setting up family planning programmes around the

The U.S. Congress mandated that the U.S. stop payments to UNFPA because it claimed that China was using coercive methods of family planning, including forced abortions, "As far as we are concerned, it's not the case," said Audun Gythfeldt, chief of the resource development unit at UNFPA. "Our own close monitoring revealed that the government policy is a volun-

Said Huang Hua: "The only way to reduce the hirthrate is to appeal to people's sense of duty and try to convince them that it is for their own good. You can't force them to use birth control.

"By the same token, the policy cannot work without worldwide support... The fact that the U.S. administration has cut its funding to the UNFPA is very disturbing. We are hoping fervently that the Bush administration will reconsider the decision" — World

he Berlin Wall was built 28 years ago

In anachronism that prevents he unification of Europe

3y Hans-Rudiger Karutz (IN PRESS)

DAY, almost thirty years af-Il, which still divides the city t was once the capital of Gerny, people not only in the st but for the first time in the it as well are reflecting on how relic of the Cold War can be loved at a time of detente and peration in Europe. The Wall huilt in August 1961 by the)R, which continues to prevent Germans in its territory from ting with their feet" against Communist regime and movto the West.

he Wall separating two parts a city — this is unique in the rld — consists of concrete is about four metres high and ends over a length of 111.2 metres between East and st Berlin and around West in. From 295 watch-towers GDR border guards scan the a in front of the Wall. Since 1, they have fired shots at uld-be escapers in 1,638 cases. least 77 people bave been ed by the border guards. On 4 y of this year, Chairman Erich necker of the GDR promised t people trying to escape uid not be shot at in future. ce 1961, some 3,200 people e been arrested at the border ause they were suspected of iting to escape to the West. Despite all barriers on the stern side, about 5,000 people since 1961 succeeded in ctly surmounting the Wall. ey climbed over, swam across ris, used ladders and ropes or tunnels to escape to freedom. /iews on the Wall have now nged in the East. During his t to Bonn in June 1989, neral Secretary Mikhail Gorhev of the Soviet Union said t the disappearance of the li was "not a major problem" is opinion. However, first the itical conditions had to be ated, he added. he Wall will only come down

Europe moves together by iceful means — this is the ssage of the Soviet Union. It ys an important role as one of four Victorious Powers, who tinuc to have authority in the ole of Berlin.

A senious political debate is inning on how the Wall can ially be overcome through ater permeability and ultitely be removed once and for President Richard von Weizker of the Federal Republic of rmany said in an interview: here were phases in the period m 1961 until now when some ppic felt compelled to accept Wall as a definitive reality in s world. That has now passed." this connection, the President cribed the Wall as an "ana-

Chancellor Helmust Kohl stated in a speech to the Bundestag: "We shall do our utmost to the erection of the Berlin keep alive the awareness of national unity and to preserve the common assets that link the people in the two parts of Germany. Our goal remains that of freedom

and unity for all Germans." cians or advisers have also spoken on this subject. For example, Mr. Alexander Yakoviev, adviser to General Secretary Gorbachev. said: "We are not the ones who built the Wall — it is not our Wall. It is the affair of the German Democratic Republic. It was clearly erected under very specific circumstances." This promp-ted Chairman Erich Honecker to say: "The Wall will remain as long as the conditions that led to its erection do not change. It will

Of late, leading Eastern politi-

speech delivered by President Reagan in 1987 when Berlin celebrated its 750th anniversary and he stated in front of the Brandenburg Gate, the city's main landmark: 'Take the Wall Down, Mr. Gorbachev...".

Depressing and incompatible with the basic human rights adopted by the CSCE conference in Vienna", is how Mr. Hans-Jochen Vogel, leader of the SPD opposition party in the Federal inc of Germany, described Mr. Honecker's remark that the Wall might stand for another fifty or hundred years.

No matter how the question about the early demolition of the Wall is answered by history, the GDR has not managed to attain one of its goals - to "stifle" the Western part of Berlin. Today, 28 years after the erection of the Wall, the opposite is true:

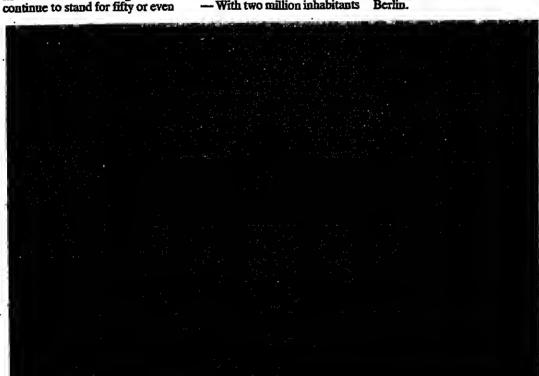
- With two million inhabitants

(870,000 of them employed), West Berlin achieves an annual gross domestic product of DM 70 billion (the value of all goods and services produce.".

-Every year roughly six milbon tourists and congress participants visit the city. It is the world's sixth most important congress centre. This economic sector alone attains an annual turnover of about DM 2 billion.

— Annually about 26 million Federal Republic of Germany and from Western European countries travel to West Berlin more than three times as many as in 1971 (when an agreement concluded by the four Victorious Powers-the USA, USSR, U.K. and France — took effect).

- Almost 12 per cent of all scientists in the Federal Republic of Germany live and work in



The Brandenburg gate and the Berlin Wall, showing the East Berlin T.V. tower in the background.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Now that U.S. President George Bush has endorsed "a journey into tomorrow" - a tomorrow that includes people living and working on the moon and mars — Congress will first have to give NASA a space haven closer to home.

It's called space station freedom, an orbiting laboratory, that was to have become a reality in 1992 but will be lncky to be built in time to greet the 21st century. Only a few hours after Bush

spoke Thursday, the station survived another financial cliffbanger in the House of Representatives, one of a long series.

When then-president Ronald Reagan proposed the station in 1984, the cost for that single component of a moon-mars future was estimated to be \$8 billion. Today's guess is \$30 billion and some experts say even that won't come close.

Returning to the moon and going on from there to mars would cost untold hillions more and would require a buildup of NASA engineers and industrial machinery oot unlike the Apollo days of the 1960s. More than 400,000 people worked on the moon programme; today, NASA and its civilian contractors employ fewer than 150,000.

One of the president's chief aides, budget Director Richard Darman, was the only administration official to say what Bush's vision might cost.

"Our current estimates are roughly — very, very roughly — that if you went to mars by the year 2020 and did so first estab-lishing a lunar base and then going from the moon, the pricetag over this 30-year period would be on the order of \$400 billion" he told reporters. The figure, he said, is in today's dollars, not figuring in inflation.
"I know it seems like a very

large number but you have to remember that it is over a 30-year period," Darman said. "Obviously, it puts the system to the test. It is a question of how much one cares about the future." Bush, in a speech that com-

memorated the 20th anniversary of the first landing on the moon, said pointedly that it is up to Congress to make the space

The first step to Mars

By Harry F. Rosenthal

dreams a reality.

It is in the Congress, he said, where the future of the space station and our future as a spacefearing nation will be decided." Bush called the space station

an essential bridge to the moonmars proposals for the 21st cen-

Members of Congress criticised Bush's omission of a timetable and estimated costs but the house readily turned back an attempt by Rep. Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, to transfer \$714 million from next year's hndget for the space station to programmes for veterans' medical care,

pollution control and low-income and elderly bousing.

"If the Schumer Amendment had passed, it probably would have killed the space station," said Rep. Bill Nelson, a Florida Democrat, chairman of the House Space Subcommittee.

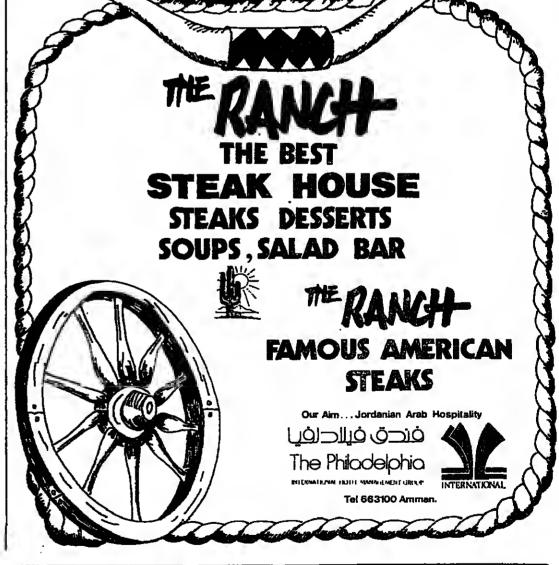
Nelson, who once rode on the space shuttle and is a strong advocate of Bush's proposals, said that NASA can't meet those goals on its present budget level of about \$10 hillion a year. "It will have to be a \$30 hillion

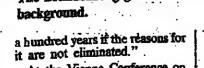
a year NASA to carry this out," he said. That would represent national budget - hut still far we could flesh out."

less than the 4 per cent-plus required to send Apollo to the

At a White House news conference, NASA administrator Richard Truly said that even if the money were made available. NASA today could not do the

"We have a full plate with space shuttle flights and space station freedom," he said. "To take on extra programmes, we would need extra help - technicians and engineers and facilities. But NASA has the underlying more than 2 per cent of the structure, and given the money.





At the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), George Shultz, then Secretary of State of the USA, stated on behalf of President Ronald Reagan: The Wall. continues to be the symbol of the division of Europe, an inhuman edifice that merely separates people from one another and must therefore be torn down." His British counterpart, Mr. Geoffrey Howe, likewise demanded at the conference that the Wall be demolished. These two Western voices followed up the great

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U.S. Senate approves \$295 billion defence bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House has approved a \$295 billion defence bill that suspends most production of the experimental Stealth bomber, cuts money for the space-based missile defence system and eliminates \$100 million for the Midgetman missile.

By a vote of 261-162, the House adopted a hill late Thursday that dealt a severe blow to ine U.S. Defence Department hudget proposed by President George Bush's administration.

While cutting administrationbacked programmes, the bill includes money for the navy's F-14D jet fighter and the Marine Corps' V-22 Osprey vertical lakeoff assault transport — two programmes Bush planned to

scrap.
"We have pretty well shredded George Bush's strategic programsaid Congressman Les Aspin, a member of the opposition Democratic Party and chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.

The Senate, the other legislative chamber in the U.S. Congress, narrowly turned hack an amendment that could have opened the door to deep cuts in the budget for the space defence system that has been duhbed Star Wars. The vote was 50-47 to table, and thus set aside, the amendment.

The measure sponsored by Sen. Bennet Johnston, a Democrai, would have frozen \$3.62 hillion of the U.S. Defence Department's allocation for Star Wars, adding only enough to cover 3.2 per cent inflation.

WASHINGTON (AP) - The

U.S. economy turned in its most

sluggish performance in almost

three years from April through

June as inflation shot up dramati-

cally, the government has re-

sion fears, the Commerce De-

partment said the gross national

product (GNP), the hroadest

gauge of economic health, grew

at a lackluster 1.7 per cent annual

It was the worst growth rate

rate in the spring quarter.

In a report apt to raise reces-

ported.

The freeze would not have affected the \$2.6 billion earmarked for the Department of Energy in Bush's overall spending plan of \$4.9 billion for Star

Wars in the new fiscal year. The Senate is expected to finish work on its version of a military spending bill next week.

After that, representatives from the House and Senate will meet in a conference committee to try to forge a compromise defence spending plan. That meeting will take place after the legislators' August recess.

In the House, the final cut in the Bush defence budget was the \$100 million the administration requested for the Midgetman.

By a vote of 176-90, the House approved the move eliminating all the money requested for the single-warhead Midgetman mis-

Democrats generally support the Midgetman system, designed to move around on heavy trucks, as a way to force the two superpowers to move toward singlewarhead missiles than would present less tempting targets in a crisis than the 10-warhead MX

and similar Soviet missiles. The House's military spending hineprint calls for suspending production of the B-2 Stealth bomber, priced at about \$530

time the economy skirted close to

The sluggish growth reflected

widespread weakeness in con-

sumer spending on hig items and

housing construction and a sharp

deterioration in the country's

weakness in any of these areas

could be enough to end the cur-

rent record peacetime expansion,

to the economy. A GNP inflation

Inflation is also posing a threat

Economists say that further

foreign trade performance.

now in its seventh year.

U.S. inflation shoots up dramatically

a recession.

million a copy, until the Defence Department scales hack its \$70billion, 132-plane programme.

The bill also requires the administration to demonstrate that the B-2 is a proven plane before production resumes.

Bush and Defence Secretary Dick Cheney had lobbied hard for the costly aircraft. In the days before House action on the authorisation bill, the administration also pleaded its case for Star

But the House slashed \$1.8 billion from the president's request for a total of \$4.9 hillion for Star Wars, officially known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI). The House earmarked the savings for conventional weapons, cleanup of nuclear de-fence facilities and military drug interdiction.

In other action, the House; Approved an amendment limiting total outlays for defence in fiscal 1990 to \$299.2 hillion.

 Adopted a non-binding resolution urging Bush to press the Soviets on dismantling their ground-hased, anti-satellite weapons and to negotiate a treaty with the Soviets on imposing strict limitations on those

- Voted to prohibit use of fiscal 1990 money for army production of hinary chemical weapons.

quarter, the fastest clip in more

The pickup, from an increase

of 4 per cent in the first quarter,

was hlamed on a sharp jump in

energy prices.
The GNP report, which

showed an even more sluggish

economy than many analysts had

been expecting, represented a setback for the government's eco-

Bush's administration issued a

revised economic forecast pre-

dicting economic growth of 2.9

Last week. President George

han six years.

nomic forecasts.

- Adopted a non-hinding resolution urging Bush to step up negotiations with the Soviets on an agreement to stop production and stockpiling of lethal chemical weapons.



Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Thursday attends a meeting of the Higher Agricultural Council in Amman (Petra photo)

Sharif Zaid: Jordan will soon settle dinar's exchange rate

Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Thursday stressed the need for encouraging Jordanian citizens to work in the agricultural sector and voiced hope that the exchange rate of the Jordan dinar will be settled soon, with a view to restore balance to the local

Sharif Zaid was speaking at a meeting for the Higher Agricultural Council, which was attended by Agriculture Minister Adnan

Badran called for studying and discussing production requirements, considering them as priorities posed by the current circumstances the country is pre-

sently passing through.

The council discussed a working paper presented by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) on the production and distribution of chemical fertilisers in Jordan, their uses and sources.

The council also reviewed means of meeting the local requirements of chemical fertilis-

by the JPMC and the fertilisers industries to provide such kinds of fertilisers locally.

Following the review of the programme, the council approved the recommendations made by the JPMC, decided toset up a special committee to study the present prices of fertilisers and to propose reasonable prices, which can serve as incentives fo rthe local production of these fertilisers.

British railwaymen suspend strikes

LONDON (R) — Britain's higgest rail union has ended a bitter pay dispute and suspended a campaign of 24-hour strikes which. have disrupted husiness and hrought misery to millions of commuters.

The National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) said it had decided to accept an 8.8 per cent

pay offer which two smaller rail unions had already accepted from state-owned British Rail, The NUR rejected the offer last

NUR leader Jimmy Knapp said the union would keep fighting to defend national collective bargaining — a second key issue in the dispute. He called for further talks with British Rail, "We shall continue the campaign among members on this vital issue," he told journalists.

There were also growing signs that a second major national strike was crumhling as dockers protesting against the abolition of a jobs-for-life scheme returned to work at Britain's higgest port,

mer management arranged for

third parties to buy Guinness stock, apparently to inflate the

share price and enhance the

successful cash-and-stock offer in

1986 for the liquor company Dis-

Seven men, including Guin-ness' deposed chairman, Ernest

Saunders, are awaiting trial on

The latest scandal grew out of

tillers Co.

criminal charges.

London's financial district rocked by new stock scandal.

Nabulsi accuses Israel of undermining dinar

AMMAN (Agencies) - Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi accused Israel Thursday of trying to undermine the dinar by triggering panie-selling of the Jordanian currency in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Nabulsi, addressing bankers and Jordanian businessmen, said lordan planned to formalise a two-tier exchange rate due to pressure from its balance of payments deficit.

The lower rate would be for government imports of basic commodities and there would be a free maket rate for commercial banks to finance private sector

imports.

Nabulsi said Israel had planted rumours that Jordan has planning to replace the dinar with a new currency.

The dinar in the West Bank has always been a target for Israeli conspiracies aimed at shaking it .. We felt the Israelis' goal was to further perplex Jor-dan and to kill the spirit of struggle among the Palestinians in their uprising," he said. The dinar has been the main

legal tender in the West Bank, where Palestinians have been in revolt for 19 months against Israeli occupation.

Nabulsi said the government has arrested Palestinian merchants who collaborated with an Israeli religious group to dump dinars onto othe market.

"Imported commodities which are not price controlled would not have to comply with (the Central Bank's) exchange rate and merchants could buy foreign currency from other channels if they wish," Nabulsi told repor-ters following a lecture at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Founda-

He said Jordanian authorities have arrested "a group of Palestinian merchants who collaborated with an Israeli religious group to flood the Kingdom's market with an influx of Jordanian dinars,"

He did not say how many people were arrested or provide other details, but said the money . involved was "a large amount. It was not a small one at all."

Nabulsi said that because of the demand for dollar in the Jordanian market, where the dollar was trading at an unrealistic rate in the black market and it caused



a lot of panic and instability. We have repeatedly affirmed to our families there (Israelioccupied territories) that the dinar will not change and those people have got to have faith in the dinar," Nabulsi said. Effective early July, the CBJ

began to sell foreign currency to banks and financial companies so as to meet the citizens' needs and influence the dinar's rate of exchange, Nabulsi said.

He added that a medinm-term economic adjustment programme for 1989-1993 was prepared in conjunction with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to rebuild the Jordanian economy. achieve self-reliance, promote investment and exports, and

rationalise consumption-The economic programme "is intended to reconstruct the national economy in order to increase the chances of genuine growth," he said.

The programme is designed to improve the performance of the national economy abroad in a way that replenishes the Kingdom's reserves of foreign currency and tackles the deficit in the balance of payments.

On the remittances of expatriates. Nabulsi said that it constitutes a basic source of foreign currency and that CBJ began to issue bonds in foreign currency where the interest and revenues on these bonds will also be paid in foreign currency.

He said efforts will undoubtedly be exerted to surmount the economic and monetary crisis sales of dinars, "there was a great. Jordan is passing through. He said that the Kingdom's ability to face problems is unlimited and that in a few years the Jordanian economy will recover.

U.S. dollars

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, J entral Bank	official t	ates	Deutschemark Swiss franc French franc Japanese yen (for 100)	306.4 356.1 90.4 411.3	309.5 359.7 91.3 415.4	
dollar and Sterling	572.4 948.5	578.4 958.0	Dutch guilder Swedish crown Italian itra (for 100) Belgian franc (for 10)	271.6 89.6 42.6 146.3	274.3 90.5 43.0 147.8	_

Third World states boost imports WASHINGTON (AP) - Third as clothes and tropical fruit.

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since a 0.8 per cent increase in the third quarter of 1986, the last 4.9 per cent in the April-June per cent for 1989.

World countries have been making it easier for the rest of the ducts to the developed countries world to sell them more goods despite their need for cash to pay off their heavy debts, according

to a three year study The study, funded by the Ford Foundation, suggested that the United States and other industrial countries should help correct this situation by opening their gates to more Third World products, such tect their own jobs and husiness

Additional sales of such procould be expected to increase

jobs and business in the Third World, it said. Richer countries strictly limit their imports of many popular items such as men's underwear and women's hlouses, which are available cheaply because of low Third World labour costs, to pro-

The report also found a new interest in the Third World for taking part in the current series of global trade talks, aimed at dismantling harriers to trade. It is 1990 with a series of agreements among almost 100

> The report said that in earlier rounds, Third World governments insisted more on their demands for help from richer coun-

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LONDON (AP) - A .iew stock ment services agency. The report scandal involving Dritain's biggest bank is prompting demands for tougher policing of Europe's ipulations in Britain.

major financial district. The controversy, known as the "Blue Arrow affair," has led to the reluctant resignation of the chairman of the bank, National Westminster PLC, and has damaged the hank's hlue-chip reputa-

A government report severely criticised the conduct of Natwest officials in the 1987 sale of shares in Blue Arrow PLC, an employ-

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reflects a government move to crack down on financial man-The furor has also raised ques-

tions about the adequacy of the attractiveness of the company's country's framework for financial self-regulation, a system established after the 1986 "big bang" - the broad deregulation of British financial markets. The British style of Teave it to

an old-boy network' was all right when the old boys had standards," said legislator John Smith, financial affairs spokesman for the opposition Labour Party. "We're in a world of global finance now where these things are swept aside. We need tough

enforcement.' "I think it's very clear to me standards in the city have fallen dreadfully," Smith said, referring to the city of London, the neighbourhood of the capital where most major financial businesses are located.

"We've now got a whole series of these things," he told a recent gathering of the Association of American Correspondents in

The Blue Arrow affair follows what is known as the Guinness scandal involving the giant brewer, Guinness PLC.

Blue Arrow's \$1.3-billion acquisition of Manpower Inc. **MANY VILLAS** AND APARTMENTS FOR RENT & SALE

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and seiling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and hullion markets Friday.

1.6568/78

One Sterling One U.S. dollar 1.1833/43 Canadian dollar 1.8761/68 . Deutschemarks Dutch guilders 2.1163/70 Swiss francs 1.6135/45 39.28/31 Belgian francs 6.3500/50 French francs 1349/1350 Italian lire Japanese yen 139.23/33 6.4050/100 Swedish crowns 6.8850/900 Norwegian crowns 7.2950/300 Danish crowns One ounce of gold 372.00/372.50 U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY - The share market closed mixed, with high interest rates a depressant. The All Ordinaries Index closed 1.4 points lower at 1,626.8 in active trading.

TOKYO — After a sharp rise at the opening, investors took profits most of the day and prices closed easier in moderate trading. The Nikkei Index fell 79.65 to 34,705.63.

HONG KONG — Signs of a revival in the property market pushed share prices up to end at the day's high. The Hang Seng Index rose 33.04 to 2.526.75.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed marginally higher on late buying and bargain-hunting after fairly active trading. The Straits Times Industrial Index rose 3.78 to 1,370.14.

BOMBAY — Share prices fell further on heavy selling for the second day as Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government continued to face opposition attacks over a controversial Bofors gun deal. Tata Steel fell 25 rupees to 1,277.50.

FRANKFURT -- Prices ended lower as dealers settled back for a period of consolidation after strong gains earlier in the week. The Dax Index fell 13.78 to 1,553.27.

ZURICH — Shares closed higher on large volume, with Nestle leading the gainers. The All-Share Swiss Performance Index rose 8.7 to 1,163.6, a high for the year.

LONDON — Shares retreated from their highs, ending another attempt to break the key resistance level of 2,300 points on the FTSE index which at 1442 GMT was 11.9 up at 2,295.6.

NEW YORK — Stocks slipped as investors began to pocket some of the week's profits before the weekend. The Dow was down 事例 经存款帐 医碘化二烷二烷



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SPORTS IN BRIEF

TRANIAN OFFICIALS UNDER FIRE AFTER POOR RE-SULTS: A Tehran daily called Thursday for a purge of sports officials following Iran's narrow win over China in a weekend soccer World Cup qualifier. The 3-2 result all but ended Iran's chances of reaching the 1990 finals in Italy. A better goal difference could have kept Iran in the running, but now China are likely to advance after an expected win over Thailand in the last game of the group. "The time is right to rethink our sports policy and sack those responsible for its present miserable state," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Kayhan International as saying. "They have played enough with the future of our youth and the country's reputation." (R)

BUTCHER SIGNS NEW CONTRACT WITH RANGERS: England central defender Terry Butcher ended speculation about his future by signing a new two-year contract with Scottish champions Glasgow Rangers Thursday. Butcher, who had 12 months of an existing deal to run, reached agreement with manager Gracine Sources to stay at Ibrox until 1991 by which time he will be 32. It had been reported that English first division club Tottenham were poised to make a one million pound sterling (\$1.66 million) bid for the player whom Souness described as a "significant factor" in Rangers' title triumph last season. (R)

YAMAHA TO CONTINUE WITH ZAKSPEED: Yamaha, hoping to compete with Honda as a major Japanese presence in Formula One, announced in Hockenheim Friday they would continue to supply engines to the West German Zakspeed team in 1990. Yamaha issued a statement making the announcement shortly after both Zakspeeds had again failed to pre-qualify for Sunday's West German Grand Prix. Zakspeed have failed to prequalify for every race this season and had been desperate to gain qualification for at least one of their cars for the team's home Grand Prix at Hockenheim. Despite their dismal sequence of failures, both Yamaha and Zakspeed remained optimistic. Yamaha's Formula One engine manager M. Gotoh said: "This year has not produced the results expected. However, building the foundation for any successful team is not easy. It requires a lot of time and patience as well as hard work." (R)

GIANT-KILLER UPSETS TWO SEEDS IN ONE DAY: West German Jens Woehrmann, in search of a decent world ranking, upset both top seed Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland and 16th seed Jan Gunnarsson in a day of shocks at the \$350,000 Stuttgart Grand Prix tennis tournament Thursday. Altogether seven seeds fell during the day, including all of the top four. Woehrmann, world number 162, beat Hlasek 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 in a second round match continued from Wednesday, leaving the world ninth-ranked Swiss stranded time and again with lethal cross-court backhands. With most spectators still asking "Jens who?" he came out again a few hours later to polish off Gunnarsson, his Swedish third round opponent 6-4, 6-4.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1-As South, vulnerable, you ♣AQJ ♥954 ♦AQJ3 ♣876 Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you

The hidding has proceeded: North East South W South Pass What do you bid now?

Q.2-As South, vulnerable, you **★K9862** ♥65 ♦83 **★9842** Partner opens the bidding with one

no trump. What action do you take? Q.3-Neither vulnerable, as South

What actinn do you take? Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you

♥AJ83 ♦Q73 ♣AJ82

What dn you bid nnw?

★K76 ♥8 ♦AKQ762 **+**Q32 The bidding has proceeded; South West North East Pass 20 Pass 3 4 Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.6-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♣ A98 . ♥10762 ♦83 ♣J652 The bidding has proceeded: East South West Pass 2 V Pass Pass ? North East 10 What do you bid now?

Look for answers on Monday. For information about Charles

Goren's newsletter for bridge play-ers, write Goren Bridge Letter, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-

Swimming in Jordan: art of self-motivation

200m breast stroke.

But that was only the beginning

for the eager teenager, for when

Saddam National Cham-

trying to improve his record be-

cause of the lack close compen-

But the lack of competitiveness

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN – Excelling in a sport requires long years of hard work and continuous exercise to polish the athlete's skills and keep him in excellent physical condition.

Ali Alwazani began his swimming career at the age of ten. Today, though still relatively young at 19, he is Jordan's swim-

ming champion.
"It took a lot of time and effort, but in the end, it was worth it," Wazani said to the Jordan Times.

Achievements started when Wazani joined the beginners' swimming team and won its championship in 1979. A year later he participated in the swimming championship with Iraq, in which he scored well.

About that first experience Wazani said: "Competing with other national groups for the first time has both its negative and positive effects on the athlete, and though it was scary, it gave me a real sense of competitive-

Wazani continued with the beginners' team until 1985, when he set the record for men's freestyle of 1.5 minute. After that, he joined the national swimming team and took up the 100-200 metres breast stroke.



Ali Wazani, male national champion: "Always make it a point to train at least ten times a week."

unbroken with 1.6.96 minute in 100m butterfly, 1.5 minute in 100m breast stroke, 2.44.3 minnte in 200m breast stroke, 2.32 m medley; thus making him Jordan's nudisputed swimming champion. Though Wazani has held the records for quite a while now, he does not seem so pleased, because of the fact that national competition is very li-

"Sometimes, the records stay unbeaten for a number of years, without, even their holders, hreaking them," Wazani said. The female swimming cham-

terpart, also voiced disatisfaction about the current lack of compentiveness in the country, saying that "usually the first player scores very high records, while the second lags very far behind.

In 1987, Demerjian partici-

Today, Wazani's records stand pion, Lara Demirjian, has a abroken with 1.6.96 minute in somewhat similar background.

She participated in the clubs' championship at the age of eleven, then joined the national swimming team in 1982 at the age

does not at all affect the two pated, for the first time in a swimmers' enthusiasm and deter-

The coach highlighted the fact that swimming as a sport, should begin at school, and should not be limited to "a certain social class" capable of paying the fees charged by private clubs.

swimming competition abroad (in Egypt). She came in first with best and working very hard on improving their skills. records of 1.3 minute in 100m breast stroke, and 3.15 minute in

Though I am currently taking a summer course at the University of Jordan. I always make it a point to train at least ten times a week, with an average of 20-24 hours," Wazani said.

she participated in the 1988 Iraqi The National Swimming Team pionship," she not only won first trains its members only five days place in the 100-200m hreast a week, with a daily average of stroke, but she was also chosen as two hours. According to the the best swimmer in the Chamcoach, Khamees Ghaith, this load is not nearly enough. A swimmer needs much more training than Demerjian, like her male counthat which the team is currently offering.

However, the team lack the proper facilities, Wazani and Demerjian have arranged for an additional three days of training at a private club in order to meet the essential average of training This does not at all help the needed to stay in top shape. winner who eventually gives up

its own swimming pool, and the players have to use the pool in the Hussem Youth City, one of the very few regulation swimming pools in Jordan," Ghaith said. He stressed the need for more Olympic-size swimming pools and swimming facilities to im-prove the swimmers potential and thus improve the country's compenitiveness with other coun-

"The team does not even have

"Swimming is a summer sport in Jordan, for again, the only regulation indoor swimming pool in Jordan is that of the Sports

coach believes, is hardly sufficient. It is even nothing compared to the swimming facilities offered by the neighbouring Arab

countries," Gaith complained.
The coach highlighted the fact that swimming, as a sport, should begin at school, and should not be limited to a "certain social

class" capable of paying the fees

charged by private clubs. "The government should offer more material and moral support for its youth, because we already have the raw material — a lot of energetic youth willing and able to offer the best they have to this country. All they need is an official authority to guide and steer them in the right direction."



Lara Demerjian : lacks close com-

British runners labelled unpatriotic

LONDON (AP) — Sprinter John Regis Thursday accused Eamonn Martin and Mark Rowland of "letting down their country" by pulling out of Britain's team for next week's European Cup at Gateshead.

Martin, the national 10,000 metres record-holder, and Rowland, the Olympic steeplechase bronze medallist, angered selec-tors when they withdrew this

Regis, Britain's only world track champion, will run the 200 metres at a meet. Points there will go towards qualifying for the. World Cup in September.

"If we fail to qualify by three or four points, there will be a lot of athletes who will be very bitter about them," Regis said. "Anyone who is selected should be proud and honoured to run and should not pull out unless in-

"There should be some disci-plinary action against them." The two athletes might also have jeopardised their chances of selection for the Commonwealth Games in Auckland, New Zealand, next year.

S. African may face tennis ban

to keep its sport in the Olympics. said Thursday it was backing a move to expel South Africa, one of its founding members.
The ITF said it was supporting

a resolution from Nigeria that the South African Tennis Union be thrown out of the 147-nation organisation "until the policy of apartheid in South Africa is abandoned."

The resolution, also backed by Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, will be voted on at the ITF's annual meeting in Buenos Aires in September. No member nation ever has been expelled from the ITF.

A statement from the federation's management committee said kicking South Africa out of the ITF-was-"essential-if the federation is to retain its membership of the Olympic games."

Officials said they wanted to avoid offending International Olympic Committee members opposed to sporting links with the racially divided nation. ITF general manager Mike

Davies said the step would not affect individual South Africans playing on the men's and jured. They are letting down their | women's tour. Christo Van Rensburg, ranked 25th among men, leads South Africa professional players.

"I don't think the ruling will have any practical implications, Davies said. ''(South Africa) players are not representing their country and ... any event that bas

LONDON (AP) — The International competition will tional Tennis Federation, anxious have to accept players of all have to accept players of all nationalities.'

The ITF said its managemet committee was hacking the expulsion move because "South Africa's continued memhership is a disruption to the development, stability and integrity of the game internationally.

Although South Africa is hanned from all team tennis events. including the Olympics, Davis Cup and Federation Cup, Davies

said its expulsion from the ITF was a necessary political move aimed at pacifying Olympic offi-

In Seoul last year, tennis returned to the Olympic games as a medal sport for the first time in 64 years when professional players were allowed to compete as a

At an International Olympic Committee meeting next month, a vote will be taken on allowing tennis to remain in the Olympics

Mayotte storms through

WASHINGTON (AP) - Topseeded Tim Mayotte hlasted 11 aces Thursday in a 7-6, 6-3 victory over Berry Moir that put him in the quarterfinals of the Sovran Bank classic.

Mayotte, ranked no. 11 in the world, surrendered only 16 points off his serve and did not face a break point. After winning the first-set tiebreaker 7-3, he got the only service break of the match in the eighth game of the second set.

The 28-year-old Wimbledon quarterfinalist then served out the match at 30. The final sbot was, appropriately, an ace. Brad Gilbert, the second seed,

overcame a 3-6 deficit in the second-set tiehreaker to beat South Africa's Gary Muller, 6-2, -6, and no. 10 Paul Chamberlin defeated Chris Garner, 6-3, 6-2. Three other seeded players, however, were not as fortunate.

Jay Berger, the third seed, dropped a 7-6, 6-3 decision to Jim Grahh, an Todd Witsken rallied from a dismal first set to notch a 1-6, 6-2, 6-3 victory over no. 6 seed paul Annacone. Derrick Rostagno, the seventh seed, fell to Australia's Simon Youl, 7-6,

India's Ramesb Krishnan advanced to the round of eight by ousting Argentina's Javier Frana, 7-5, 6-1, and the match between no. 4 seed Yannick Noah and Richey Reneberg was delayed by

Mayotte, vying for his first tournament title of the year, did not face a hreak point in eliminating the 195th-ranked Moir in 78 minutes.

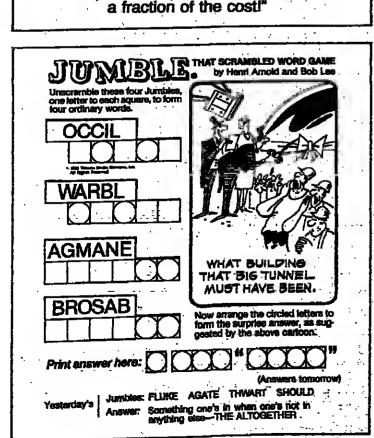
"I served great today, really well," he said. "Barry's a good player, but I beld my serve pretty

Baseball standings

NEW YORK (AP) - Major league baseball standings following Thursday games.

	American	League		
	East Di	vision		
	w	L	PCT	GB
Baltimnre	53	40	535	_
Taronia	50	51	.495	4
Cleveland	49	50	.495	4
Boston	· 47	49	.490	41 -
Milwaukee	48	53	. 175	ń
New York	47	53	.470	61-
Detroil	34	65	.343	19
	West I	Division		
California	61	39	.610	_
Oakland	60	41	.594	13-2
Texas	55	45	.550	6
Kansas City	55	46	.545	017
Minnesota	49	51	.490	12
Seattle	48	52	.480	13
Chicago	43	58	.426	181⊕
	National	League		
	East D			
Montreal	59	42	.584	_
Chicago	55	45	.550	312
New York	53	46	.535	5
St. Louis	51	46	.526	6
Pittsburgh	44	55	.414	14
Philadelphia	38	60	.388	19%
	West 1	Division		
San Francisco	60	42	.588	
Houston	58	44	.589	2
San Diego	49	53	.480	Ĭı
Los Angeles	48	55	.466	1217
Cincinnati	46	55	.455	1312
Atlanta	42	60	.412	18

THE BETTER HALF, By Harris HARRIS "If you cover paper cups with clear plastic wrap, they look like expensive crystall And for just



HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED



Peanuts



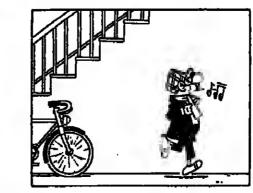




Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp











Way cleared for **Cambodia parley**

seating arrangement for their representatives at next week's international conference on Cambodía, French officials said.

Officials of the Vietnamesebacked Cambodian government and three rebel groups that form a resistance coalition reached a compromise during a meeting at the French Foreign Ministry. a ministry spokesman said.

A solution had been sought since Tuesday, when talks between Prime Minister Hun Sen and the three resistance leaders - Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Khieu Samphan of the Communist Khmer Rouge and Son Sann of the non-Communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front - broke off over the issue.

Hun Sen rejected Sihanouk's proposal for one joint Cambodian delegation, while Sibanouk would not accept Hun Sen's proposal for two delegations — one for the Vietnamese-backed government and one grouping the three rebel organisations.

Under the compromise, Cambodia would be one entity listed alphabetically between Brunei and Canada but with four subdelegations. The factions would be seated in alphabetical order.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said there were no plans for

PARIS (AP) - Warring Cambo- the Cambodian leaders to meet dian factions have agreed on a again before the international conference opens Sunday. Representatives from nearly 20 countries, including U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, were expected to attend the opening.

China, Vietnam, Britain, India, Indonesia and Thailand also were expected to send repre-

The conference was to try to work out a peace plan and agreement, on the composition of a government following the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, scheduled to be completed by the end of

One subject to be discussed was verification of the Vietnamese withdrawal, which Hun Sen has promised would be complete by Sept. 27. Sihanouk claims tens of thousands of Vietnamese are now disguised as Cambodian soldiers.

Also to be considered was international supervision of elections to be held in Cambodia, possibly after formation of an interim government that would include representatives of the resistance and Hun Sen's govern-

The major question appears to be what role, if any, the Khmer



HUN SEN (left), Cambodia's Vietnamese-backed prime minister; former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk; French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas; ex-Prime Minister of Cambodia Son-Sann; and Khmer Rouge leader Khien Samphan (foreground), pose on the steps of the chateau in the Paris suburbs of Celle-Saint-Cloud prior to the resumption of this week's talks to seek a solution for Cambodia.

Rouge would play in an interim government. Hun Sen rejects any participation by the rebel group, which is blamed for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians when the Khmer Rouge ruled the country from 1975 until

Vietnam's invasion in late 1978. Sihanouk argues the Chinesebacked Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the guerrilla factions, would continue to fight if shut out of the government, ensuring continued strife.

India to pull out Sri Lanka forces

COLOMBO (Agencies) — India will begin withdrawing its 45,000 troops from Sri Lanka Saturday, resolving a row which severely damaged relations between the countries, the two government said

"The president of Sri Lanka, Ranasinghe Premadasa, has requested the prime minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi, to recommence withdrawing the Indian peace keeping force (IPKF)," a joint statement said.

It said the pullout would begin Saturday, the deadline set by Premadasa for withdrawal to

begin.
Sri Lankan Foreign Minister
Ranjan Wijerante will fly to Delhi Saturday to discuss a schedule for the withdrawal of the rest of the Indian contingent, the statement said.

It said he and his delegation would discuss the end of military operations by remaining Indian

Premadasa has asked Indian troops to cease hostile operations against guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eclam (LTTE), with whom Colombo is

holding peace talks. Witeratne will also discuss with the Indian side safety and security

island, which is inhabited mostly by Tamils, the statement said. Premadasa scheduled a nationwide address on state-run televi-

in the north and east of the

sion and radio Friday night. "We should be grateful to the government of India for agreeing to recall the Indian army... acceding to my request," Premadasa

said in his speech, the text of which was released in advance. In New Delhi, the Indian government announced the two countries had signed an agreement that provided for its peacekeeping troops to begin pulling out of Sri Lanka Saturday.

The government did not say how many soldiers would leave or when the withdrawal would be completed.

In his speech, Premadasa called for Sri Lankans to work together to repair the damage from six years of ethnic vioilence.

"The protests staged against the continuance of the IPKF in

resorting to strikes and disruptive activities based on such protests, we are causing damage and harm to ourselves," the president said. "It is our own people who get killed. It is our own people who suffer as a result. It is our counmy's economy that suffers."

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had refused to meet Premadasa's deadline for a troop withdrawal, saying a hasty pulfout could lead to more bloodshed on the troubled Indian Ocean

Premadasa's deadline coincided with the second anniversary of the peace accord that brought the Indian troops to Sri Lanka's

The soldiers were initially deloyed to supervise the July 29, 1987; accord that promised limited autonomy to Sri Lanka's minority Tamils, who were demanding an independent nation.

Premadasa's repeated requests and Gandhi's refusal led to fears of an armed confrontation between the Indian and Sri Lankan

But Wijeratne Thursday ruled out a military clash with Sri Lanka's powerful northeastern neigh-"We know our limita-



Peking blames **Zhao for**

PEKING (AP) - A national campaign to rally support for the army's crackdown on pro-democracy protests has singled out party veteran Zhao Ziyang for criticism, casting him as the chief culprit for most of China's prob-

When the party Central Committee ousted Zhao June 24 as part general secretary, it accused him of splitting the party and supporting student-led demonstrations that were crushed by

thousands dead. Since then he has been blamed

literature and lower worker productivity. Zhao first came under direct criticism by other party leaders

from China's economic reform programme. Having spearheaded market-oriented reforms initiated by

panic buying. Recent commentaries in the official media have repeated

Government spokesman Yuan Mu told reporters that because Zhao allegedly neglected to promote communist ideological education, he also should be

"Zhao Ziyang once openly stated that corruption is inevitable in the primary stages of a commercial economy," Yuan

Zhao Ziyane

all woes

soldiers in early June. The crackdown left hundreds and perhaps

for many problems, including the nation's economic woes, rampant corruption, pornography, bad

last year for problems arising

those criticisms and added new accusations.

blamed for endemic corruption.

The head of the national trade federation, Ni Zhifu, said workers' enthusiasm, and implicitly, their productivity was low because "some persons" had advocated blunting the leading role of the working class. The phrase "some persons," increasingly. common in editorials and speeches, is understood to mean

"Zhao Ziyang for a long time has not spoken about relying on the leadership of the working class," complained a legislator.

department.

Khashoggi released on bail

NEW YORK (Agencies) -Saudi financier Adnan Khashoggi has posted \$10 million bail and traded his jail cell for a 12,790square-metre luxury apartment and an electronic monitoring

As he left the U.S. courthouse Thursday. Khashoggi smiled and promised to stay in the country to face charges that he helped deposed Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife, Imelda. defraud the Philippines

Khashoggi, who has been in custody since his arrest in Switzerland April 18, was released after his hrothers posted two \$5-million bank checks.

"I am pleased that the courts have granted me bail," he said before heing driven away in a silver limousine. "I am anxious to begin work for my defence and look forward to clearing my name at trial.

Khashoggi, in the same green leisure suit he wore when he was extradited from Switzerland July 19, needed the help of federal marshals to push back reporters so he could get into his car.

He was driven 10 an apartment he owns in the luxury Olympic Towers huilding on Fifth Ave-His movements will be moni-

tored by an electronic device he must wear on his ankle. He is not allowed to travel outside New York and the city's northern sub-One of the Barclavs Bank

checks posted as bail was signed hy his brother. Essam Khashoggi, and the other by his half-brother. Amr Khashoggi. His release was cleared Thurs-

day morning when an appeals judge denied a request by prosecutors to revoke the hail package granted Tuesday by U.S. District Judge John Keenan.

Judge William Pierce of the U.S. 2nd circuit court of appeals lifted a stay on Khashoggi's release in denying the appeal. Prosecutors had opposed his

release because they claimed Khashoggi had concealed his true wealth and was likely to flee. Earlier in the day, Khashoggi

also promised Keenan he would not leave the country. "I want to assure your honour that I will abide because I cherish the relationship with America.

Khashoggi said. . He made the comment during a status conference on the case that had been previously scheduled Keenan set a March 14, 1990. trial date for Khashoggi, Mrs. Marcos and another defendant.

the California Overseas Bank of

Los Angeles.

Bloch reportedly admitted links with KGB WASHINGTON (AP) — Felix

Bloch, the U.S. diplomat under investigation for allegedly spying for the Soviet Union, told Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) agents he had been paid "a lot of money" by the Soviet intelligence service dur-ing a relationship of "many years," a newspaper reported Friday.

The new development in the Bloch case came after officials disclosed in Washington that Bloch received recent merit raises totalling more than \$13,000 for work "well above.

Bloch's reported admissions came in his one brief interview with the FBI June 22, the New York Times reported in its Friday editions, quoting an "offi-cial involved in the case" as its

Informed of this report, three administration sources familiar with the Bloch case said in Washington Thursday night

captured one of the country's

most prominent communist lead-

ers and officials immediately

hailed the arrest as a major set-

back to the 20-year-old commun-

Satur Ocampo, 50, a suspected

central committee member of the

hanned Communist Party of the

Philippines (CPP), was arrested

with his common-law wife. Caro-

lina Malay, 50, in suburban

Makati district, the military said

In an unrelated operation.

troops arrested 15 other sus-

pected rebels in raids on 23 guer-

rilla hideouts throughout the

capital, said Brigadier-General

Alexander Aguirre, Manila area

issued statements to media agen-

cies on behalf of the National

Democratic Front (NDF), an

umbrella organisation of 12 Mar-

xist groups including the CPP and

its armed wing, the New People's

in the latest rebel statement,

issued four days ago, Ocampo

renewed the front's offer to de-

clare a ceasefire if President

Corazon Aquino promised to

Before his capture, Ocampo

ist insurgency.

communder.

Army (NPA).

they had not been informed of such admissions.

But the Associated Press learned from a congressional source that the FBI believes Bloch was recruited by the KGB. the Soviet intelligence service combining the functions of the FBI and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), during his service at the U.S. embassy in East Berlin 14 years

Bloch reportedly refused to discuss with the FBI any possi-ble spying activities or his mo-

Key leader of Filipino

Communists captured

MANTLA (AP) - Soldiers have negotiators for the front during

deputy.

The newspaper said the FBI received information that prompted major interest in a trip the diplomat was making to Europe. In Moscow, a Soviet government spokesman said the Soviet Union had no connection with Bloch.

Gennady I. Gerasimov; the Foreign Ministry spekesman, said allegations that Bloch was a spy for the Soviet Union were a

peace talks with the government

that collapsed in January 1987.

Military officials say Ocampo

headed the party's united front

commission, with Malay as his

crush the rebellion buy the end of

her term in 1992, congratulated

the military for Ocampo's arrest,

calling it an "outstanding feat."

no, chief of the Philippine Con-

stabulary, said Ocampo's capture

was the "beginning of te end" of

the communist rebellion. He said

the arrest was significant because

Ocampo took charge of the rebel

movements propaganda cam-

paign.
With his capture, we are hop-

ing that this effective propaganda

machine will be reduced in effi-

the capture is a breakthrough,

particularly in terms of further

weakening the insurgency," said

Noel Tolentino, a deputy spokes-

But Ocampo said his arrest was

part of the armed struggle and

does not mean significant change

"As far as we are concerned,

ciency," said Montano.

man for Aquino.

in the movement.

close U.S. hases here by 1991.

Both former journalists, one," Ocampo said of the rebel movement. "Previously, sup-

Major-General Ramon Monta-

Aquino, who has vowed to

nia" sparked by the U.S.

In a follow-up to questions asked Wednesday, Gerasimov said be made inquiries about Bloch's activities, "The name of Bloch was not familiar. We have no connection with him. We have nothing to do with him," told a regular news briefing. He said: "It is lamentable

that the U.S. press fans such hysteria." On Thursday, meanwhile, a U.S. official who asked not to be identified said Bloch received a merit raise of \$4,500 for fiscal

year 1983-84, \$4,000 for 1984-85 and \$4,800 for 1985-86. The pay increases were given to Bloch while he served as the deputy chief of mission at the U.S. embassy in Vienna, where he was posted from 1980 to 1987. Recommendations for the merit awards were made by. among others, the U.S. ambassador to Austria who has been

publicly critical of Bloch's per

formance, said the official. The State Department calls such raises performance pay awards, granted only to those whose work is deemed "well above average," said another official, who also insisted on anonymity.

Government sources have said Bloch was videotaped in Paris handing a briefcase to a Soviet agent. He has not been charged with a crime, but his diplomatic passport and State Department credentials have been revoked.

Agents are engaged in what is expected to be a lengthy, and possibly futile, search for the specific evidence required to charge Bloch under the U.S. Espionage Act, including what secrets, if any, were compromised. Government sources have thus far been unwilling to say when they believe Bloch began

- President George Bush added his voice to those advocating improved U.S. counterintelligence efforts since disclosure that Bloch is under inves-

- Government sources familiar with the case said the 54year-old State Department official could remain free for a long time while FB1 agents try to identify specific secrets, if any, that he may have turned over to the Soviets.

The ambassador during most of Bloch's tenure in Vienna was Helene von Damm, who was a senior White House secretary to former President Renald Reagan before being appointed to the Vienna post.

Von Damin, who left during a social flap involving her marriage to an Austrian, was replaced by Ronald Lander, now

a Republican candidate for the mayor's job in New York City. spying for the Soviets. In other developments related Papandreou faces wiretapping inquiry

ATHENS (AP) - Parliament on Friday voted in favour of investigating allegations that former Socialist Premier Andreas Papandreou ran an illegal wiretapping

network. The 300-member parliament voted 170-119 in favour of setting up a committee to probe the allegations, made by the centreright New Democracy Party. A total of 294 deputies were present and five abstained.

Once the committee is formed it has one month to try to substantiate the allegations. If it finds that charges can be pressed, a special high court would be convened to try Papandreou.

Papandreon's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) ruled Greece for eight years until it was swept from power in the June 18 elections, in which no party received a majority.

The Conservatives and the Communist-dominated Coalition of the Left and Progress agreed to govern for three months together

to try to clean up Greek politics. But in a surprising move, the coalition voted against investigating three former heads of the Ministry of Transport and Communication. In a proposal submitted one week ago, New Democracy had charged that the three former ministers were involved in the illegal eavesdropping. Papandreou, on a boneymoon

with his new wife, was not in During the often-stormy sevenand-a-half hour debate, New

Democracy deputies charged that

Papandreou used facilities provided by Greece's national intelligence service, known as EYP, and the state-run Greek Telecommunications Corporation to eavesdrop on the Greek president, political foes and his own cabinet ministers. "None of us ever complained about legal wiretaps, but this was

an unprecedented network cavesdropping on politicians, journalists and even members of their party," New Democracy Leader Constantine Mitsotakis said. "Andreas Papandreon headed this. The monitoring was carried

out ...for the gains of Andreas Papandreou," he added. Mitsotakis contended that the three ex-officials also were re-

sponsible because they failed to stop the wiretapping.
But coalition President Harilacs

Florakis arged that Papandreou, as head of intelligence services, bore sole responsibility for the

Palme killing may be Sweden's Kennedy assassination

Satur Ocampo

since escaped.

posed known leaders had also

been captured. This has not

caused a big dent. There is a long,

wide bench with responsible com-

captured about 10 central com-

mittee members since Aquino

took power in 1986, although one

of them, Romulo Kintanar, has

reporters at a military camp, said

he and Malay were riding in their

car when another vehicle over-

took and cut them off. Three

pistol-wielding soldiers then

jumped from the car and arrested

would be charged with rebellion.

Military officials said the pair

Ocampo, who was presented to

The military claims to have

rades who would take over."

By Arthur Max The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — The conviction of Christer Pettersson for the 1986 killing of Prime Minister Olof Palme has left lingering questions that many Swedes were asking as soon the verdict was announced.

Pettersson, a 42-year-old with a long record of crime, drunkenness and drug abuse, was sentenced Thursday to life imprisonment.

But the Palme file still has plenty of pages blank for advocates of conspiracy theories. It promises to become Sweden's equivalent to the 1963 assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy. Palme, a dynamic four-term

premier and Swdeden's leading

political figure for two decades,

was shot as be walked home with his wife Lisbeth from a downtown movie theatre on Feb. 28; 1986. The two professional judges

on the jury voted to acquit Pettersson for lack of evidence. but they were overruled by the six lay jurors. In a 46-page verdict, the jury pinned its judgment on Mrs.

Palme's identification of Pettersson. She said she saw him standing five metres away just after her husband crumpled to the street. "The way she identified him

at the trial is, according to the court, very convincing," the judgment said. It cited other witnesses who saw Pettersson waiting for the Palmes and following them. This testimony "supported Lis-

beth Palme's identification to

such a degree that the court finds it without reasonable doubt that he fired the two shots.

The two dissenting judges noted that the murder weapon, a .357-calibre Magnum revolver, was never found, and no physical evidence surfaced to link Pettersson with the shooting. Noone swore to seeing him fire a weapon.

"The factor of uncertainty is so prominent that we can't vote to convict," said Judge Michael Af Geijerstam. The motive is the biggest unanswered question in the case. Why would Pettersson kill

Palme? The written judgment ignored the issue. During the five-week trial the prosecution intimated that Pettersson simply hated all authority. Pettersson, who maintained his innocence, claimed to be an admirer of Palme. Why did no one claim the

\$8-million reward? Since Pettersson was arrested Dec. 14, news reports have questioned whether Pettersson, a heavy drinker and user of amphetamines, could have kept

his mouth shut about the

"Doubts will continue to gnaw, because Pettersson doesn't fit the picture of the killer of a prime minister," said Ulia Bondeson, a criminologist from Malmo. "No official investigation can ever kill the

speculation," she said. This verdict is the worst possible conclusion. The national trauma will continue," said political commentator Yrsa Stenios. 'There is no motive,

no logical chain of events leading up to the incident."
Palme's international stature and involvement in disarma-

ment issues gave rise to theories of international intrigue. Investigators focussed on possible conspiracies during the first year. Most centered on militant Kurdish exiles, angered at a crackdown by

Palme's Social Democratic government. The Iranian leadership of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was among others suspected. Those theories were eventually dismissed as groundless, but speculation is bound to

haunt the case. Four hours before Palme was shot, the files on tax investigation against him disappeared in a break-in at the county administrative appeals court.

senior leader Deng Xiaoping, he was held responsible when decentralisation of the economy contributed to runaway inflation and

A group of writers and artists blamed him for pornography.

"Comrade Zhao Ziyang... certainly didn't firmly grasp party ideology... so that all sorts of garbage appeared in our society," Gu Zuogang of the China dance association said at a forum organised by the party propaganda

Road haunted

I II LEHAMMER, Norway (AP)

Highway workers have posted a road sign to wark motorists of a haunting hazard - ghosts crossing. The red and white triangular sign, illustrated with a spectre, warns drivers of a supernatural hazard some workers claim exists along a southern Norway secon-dary road, near a highway department vacation cabin, reports said. Some of our people have expenenced so many strange things at the cabin that they swear there are ghosts in the area," state highway department spokesman Geir Hasie told the Norwegian news agency NTB. The cabin, formerly used by laghway watchmen, is reputed to be the site of numerous nnexplained incidents. Hasle said the sign, which meets national standards was made by the highway office to mark the 100th anniversary of the Geiranger Highway. The idea was not cleared with the highway department main office, he said. "The road isn't used much anymore so we didn't see any problem with posting the sign," Hasie told Oslo newspaper Verdens Gang.

Puccini opera scores stolen

LUCCA. Italy (R) — Handwritten scores of six early operas by Italian composer Giacomo Puccini were stolen Thursday from a museum in his home town Lucca, police said. The scores were written between 1832 and 1884 when Puccini, best known for his operas "Madame Butterfly" and "La Boheme," was in his mid-twen-

Elastic jumping fad banned

PARIS (AP) — It is now illegal in

France to tie an elastic band to your feet and jump off into the void. The practice had become a minor fad, with thetcourageous or reckless flinging themselves off, for example, the Eiffel Tower and bouncing headfirst several times in midair. The government issued its temporary ban after a third death this year resulting from the fad. Emmanuel Bottin, a 27-year-old Frenchman, was killed July 18 when the elastic band attaching him to a bridge in the Alps snapped on the third bounce, dropping him into the rocks 30 metres below. "This is a new and dangerous physical activity," the French interior and sports ministries said in a joint statement Thursday. Such an activity cannot continue without serious guarantees for the safety of the participants being required of organisers." There was no indication how long it would take to draw up regulations under which the sport could resume.

'J.R.' gets new 'bad girl'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — J.R. Ewing will have a new "bad girl" to contend with this season: blond actress Kimberly Foster, who will play a vixen on "Dallas." Foster said she screamed in delight when told she had the part. on the CBS Television show, "It's scary going into a show that's been going for 12 years. It's kind of like I've been invited to a really big party where you don't know any of the guests," said Foster, who will be relatively new to prime-time audiences. In an unusual step, her name will appear in the main titles. "You always need someone to stir up the pot," said executive producer Leonard Katzman. "And every-body loves a bad girl." Other newcomers to the long-running series: Sasha Mitchell as a wellbuilt man who may be J.R.'s son; and Elizabeth Taylor's son Michael Wilding as a powerful art gallery owner.

Global weather.

(major world cities) MINL MAX.

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